

1977

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATES GRANTS (ROADS INTERIM ASSISTANCE) BILL 1977

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by the Acting Minister for  
Transport, The Honourable I.M. Macphee, MP)

STATES GRANTS (ROADS INTERIM ASSISTANCE) BILL 1977

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. The purpose of this Bill is to provide interim finance to the States in the form of Section 96 non-repayable interest free advances for roads purposes pending the presentation and passage through Parliament of major legislation to provide such finance for the years 1977/78 to 1979/80. Advances to be made under this Bill will cover the months of July, August and September 1977.

2. This Bill is necessary as appropriations under the National Roads Act 1974 and the Roads Grants Act 1974 by means of which assistance is provided to the States terminate on 30 June 1977.

3. The Bill consists of six clauses:

Clause 1 gives the short title of the subject Bill.

Clause 2 states that the Act will come into operation on the day it receives Royal Assent.

Clause 3 defines key terms which are used in the Bill, as well as defining the circumstances of other items such as the eligibility of a tax on wages.

Clause 4 enables the Minister to approve road works for the purpose of this Act.

Clause 5 covers the financial arrangements. It authorises payments to the States from the Consolidated Revenue Fund which is appropriated accordingly. It also enables the Minister if he so wishes to make it a condition of a payment that it be expended on a specified road work. This will ensure

that the expenditure is related to the categorisation as announced.

Clause 6 specifies conditions as to period by which amounts must be expended, the provision of information and certificates that amounts have been correctly expended and authority to demand repayment in case amounts are incorrectly expended,

4. The Schedule to the Bill sets out the amounts to be appropriated to each State during the period of the Bill.