LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARY

STATES GRANTS (SCHOOLS ASSISTANCE) AMENDMENT BILL 1986

Date introduced: 30 April 1986
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Hon. Barry Jones, M.P.,
Minister for Science

DIGEST OF BILL

Purpose

To amend the States Grants (Schools Assistance) Act 1984 (the Principal Act) to adjust grants to schools for cost increases.

Background

The Federal government provides assistance to the States and the Northern Territory for both government and private schools through the Principal Act. Under the funding arrangements for schools assistance, grants are adjusted retrospectively to compensate for cost increases.

Main Provisions

Section 5 of the Principal Act sets a limit on the annual amount paid to a new student who is learning English as a second language in 1985. Clause 3 will set a new limit of $957, an increase of $25 on the previous limit.

A limit on grants for programs of basic learning at government schools is set by section 23 of the Principal Act. Clause 4 will set a new limit of $5 659 000 for 1987, an increase of $147 000.

Grants for building projects and equipment projects in non-government schools are limited by section 27 of the Principal Act. Clause 6 will amend this section by increasing the limit for 1986 by $104 000 to become $2 783 000.
Grants for special education at non-government schools are limited by section 41 of the Principal Act. Clause 7 will amend this section to increase the limit for 1986 by $342,000 to $13,139,000.

Section 49 of the Principal Act sets a limit on grants for programs of basic learning for non-government schools. A new limit for 1987 will be set by clause 8, which will increase the limit by $38,000 to $1,463,000.

Grants for building projects and equipment projects in schools serving predominantly Aboriginal communities are limited by section 53 of the Principal Act. Sub-clause 9(a) will set the limit for such grants to government schools in 1986 at $5,885,000, an increase of $220,000. The limit for such grants to non-government schools in 1986 will be increased by sub-clause 9(b) by $88,000 to $2,354,000.

Section 60 of the Principal Act sets a limit on the level of financial assistance in any year for each student in an approved program of ethnic education. Clause 10 will increase the limit by $1 to $35 per student.

Clause 11 updates Schedules 1-16 of the Principal Act to take account of the increased grants.

For further information, if required, contact the Education and Welfare Group.

© Commonwealth of Australia 1986

Except to the extent of the uses permitted under the Copyright Act 1968, no part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, including information storage and retrieval system, without the prior written consent of the Department of the Parliamentary Library. Reproduction is permitted by Members of the Parliament of the Commonwealth in the course of their official duties.