LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARY

STATES GRANTS (TERTIARY EDUCATION 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 (Tertiary Education Assistance) Act 1984 (the Principal Act) to adjust grants for cost increases.

Background

Funding is made available to the States and Northern Territory under the Principal Act for universities, colleges of advanced education (CAEs), and technical and further education institutions. The Principal Act provides for recurrent, capital and equipment grants, which are based on the Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commissions programs for the 1985 to 1987 triennium. Under the funding arrangements, retrospective supplementary grants are made to cover cost increases in the programs.

Main Provisions

Section 7 of the Principal Act provides for grants for equal opportunity programs. Clause 3 will set the limit for such grants in 1986 at $1 155 000 (an increase of $15 000), and $1 150 000 for 1987 (an increase of $10 000).

Grants may be made to institutions which promote the participation of Aborigines in tertiary education. Clause 4 will amend sub-section 8(3) of the Principal Act by limiting such grants in 1987 to $3 877 000, an increase of $36 000.
Some students at tertiary education institutions may be eligible for special assistance (section 9 of the Principal Act). Clause 10 will amend this provision so that aggregate grants to States for this purpose will not exceed $11,133,500, an increase of $43,500.

Grants may be made to the States for forwarding to universities or colleges of advanced education to develop key centres of teaching and research (section 10 of the Principal Act). Sub-clause 6(a) will set the limit for such grants in 1986 at $1,155,000 an increase of $15,000. An increase of $10,000 will be made for such grants in 1987, bringing the total amount for that year to $1,150,000.

Universities and colleges of advanced education may be assisted, under section 11 of the Principal Act, in meeting their superannuation expenses. Clause 7 will amend the limits set for such grants by reducing the 1985 limit by $2,151,000, increasing the 1986 limit by $2,429,000 and increasing the 1987 limit by $223,000, bringing it to $25,530,000.

Section 12 of the Principal Act provides for grants in respect to student residences. Clause 8 will increase the limit for such grants in 1986 by $62,000 bringing the limit for such grants in 1986 to $1,436,000. The amount available for CAEs and non-government teaching colleges in 1986 will be increased by $20,000 to $427,000.

Grants may be made under section 14 of the Principal Act to universities undertaking special research. Clause 9 will increase the limit for such grants in 1986 by $79,000 to $5,462,000, and increase the 1987 limit by $52,000, bringing the limit in 1987 for such grants to $5,435,000.

Clause 10 will substitute into the Principal Act revised Schedules 1-23 which detail the amounts allocated to various institutions.
For further information, if required, contact the Education and Welfare Group.

22 May 1986

Bills Digest Service
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