
A D M I N I S T R A T I V E L A W W A T C H

Student Assistance Review Tribunal (SART)

Legislation was introduced into the Senate on 11 September 1985 which proposes significant changes, of an administrative nature, in the operation of the SARTs. The Council was not consulted before the legislation was introduced. The Bill proposes that the large number of existing Tribunals should be abolished and one Tribunal set up which, in effect, would comprise a pool of Convenors (formerly called Chairpersons) and members. It is expected that there would be one Convenor and a number of members in each State, and that Tribunals would be constituted out of this pool for the purpose of hearing individual appeals.

Other changes proposed would enable the appointment of acting Convenors, would allow the SART to remit matters to the Department for reconsideration in accordance with its directions or recommendations, and would provide for more flexible procedures regarding hearing notices.

These changes are contained in the Student Assistance Amendment Bill 1985. In introducing the Bill the Minister for Community Services, Senator Grimes, indicated that it was intended to reappoint all present Chairpersons and members of existing SARTs as Convenors and members of the new Tribunal. The Minister's second reading speech, which outlines the provisions of the Bill, may be found in Australian Senate, Hansard 11 September 1985, at pages 414-415.

R E C E N T P U B L I C A T I O N S

The following recent works relating to administrative law may be of interest:

Aitken, Lee J.W.

'State Courts and the Administrative Decisions
(Judicial Review) Act' (1984)
University of N.S.W. Law Journal 317

Allan, T.R.S.

'Abuse of Power and Public Interest Immunity:
Justice, Rights and Truth'. (1985) 101
Law Quarterly Review 200

Bayne, Peter

'FOI: The public interest in disclosure and
non-disclosure' (1985) 10 Legal Service Bulletin 147

Craddock, Gerard

'The New Administrative Law: You Remain My Obedient
Servant?' (1985) 10 Legal Service Bulletin 184

Curtis, Lindsay

'The Impact of Recent Administrative Law Reform on
Public Sector Managers' 55 (1985)
Australian Accountant 18

Dreyfus, Mark

'Nursing Home Fee Determinations: Judicial
Supervision of Departmental Procedure'. (1985) 15
Federal Law Review 89

Goldring, John

'Public Law and Accountability of Government' (1985)
15 Federal Law Review 1

Griffiths, John

'The AD(JR) Act - The Latest Caselaw'. Unpublished
paper delivered at a Seminar on Administrative Law
organised by the Victorian Law Institute, Melbourne,
26 September 1985