

1990

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING AMENDMENT BILL 1990

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by authority of the
Minister for Higher Education and Employment Services, the
Honourable Peter Baldwin, MP)



Higher Education Funding Amendment Bill 1990

OUTLINE

The purpose of this Bill is to amend the Higher Education Funding Act 1988 to provide as a condition of payments under the Act that States will not take any action to prevent or hinder the imposition or collection of fees by higher education institutions for organisations representing the interests of students generally. It enables the Minister to determine, if the condition is not met, an amount payable by a State to the Commonwealth and amounts of Commonwealth payments to institutions in respect of such organisations.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The Bill will have no financial impact on Commonwealth outlays. The total of any Commonwealth payments to institutions will not exceed the total amounts payable by States to the Commonwealth.

NOTES ON CLAUSES OF THE BILL

Clause 1 : Short title etc

Clause 2 : Commencement

Clause 3 : State not to prevent imposition of fees for student organisations etc.: The new section:

- sets out the condition on payments under the Act (subsection 107A(1));
- enables the Minister to determine amounts to be repaid by the State to the Commonwealth and by the Commonwealth to institutions (subsection 107A(2));
- ensures that the amounts to be paid to institutions will in total not exceed the total amounts payable by the States (subsection 107A(3)); and
- enables payments to be made from the Consolidated Revenue Fund (subsection 107A(4)).