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THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OVERSEAS STUDENTS CHARGE AMENDMENT BILL 1982

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by authority of the Minister for
Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, the Hon. I.M. Macphee, MHR.)

OUTLINE

OVERSEAS STUDENTS CHARGE AMENDMENT BILL 1982

This Bill amends the Overseas Students Charge Act 1979 to allow the introduction of charges for overseas students attending accredited advanced education level courses funded by the Commonwealth at institutions other than universities and colleges of advanced education.

It will enable regulations to be made to declare those courses for the purposes of the Act. However, a charge is not payable in respect of an enrolment in those courses until the year after those courses are declared by regulations.

NOTES ON CLAUSES

Clause 1 - Short title

This clause provides for the citation of the Bill and defines the Principal Act for the purposes of the Bill.

Clause 2 - Interpretation

This clause inserts the definition of "declared course" into sub-section 4(1) of the Principal Act, and adds "any declared course" to the definition of "prescribed course" for the purposes of the Act.

The effect of this amendment is that an enrolment in a 'declared course' will be subject to a charge under section 5 of the Act.

Clause 3 - Declared course

This clause enables regulations to be made to declare, for the purposes of the Act, courses offered by specified educational institutions other than universities and colleges of advanced education.

Clause 4 - Application in relation to declared courses

This clause inserts a new section into the Act to provide for a charge to be imposed in relation to 'declared courses' in the year that follows the year in which the declaration with respect to these courses was made.

The clause also contains transitional provisions to exempt overseas students from the charge where they have commenced or commence and continue to undertake the courses that are declared for the purposes of the Act.

Clause 5 - Regulations

This clause amends section 8 of the Act so that regulations may be made for the purposes of any provision of the Act.

