1983 - 1984

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

THE SENATE

PROTECTION OF THE SEA (SHIPPING LEVY) AMENDMENT BILL 1984

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by authority of the Minister representing the Minister for Transport, the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Senator the Hon. A.T. Gietzelt)

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GENERAL OUTLINE

At present, the Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy) Act 1981 applies the levy to any ship exceeding 100 register tons. The Shipping Registration Amendment Bill proposes to exempt all ships under 24 metres from the necessity to register, and it is intended that the Regulations under that Act will exempt ships under 24 metres from the necessity to be measured for tonnage if they are registered voluntarily.

Because ships under 24 metres would no longer have evidence, in the form of a tonnage certificate, of their tonnage for the purposes of the Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy) Act, 1981, it is proposed to amend that Act so that the size limit is the same as in the Shipping Registration Act.

SHORT TITLE, ETC.

This is the normal formal clause providing for the citation of the Principal Act and the Amending Act.

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CLAUSE 2

COMMENCEMENT

Clause 3 provides that the manner of determination of "tonnage length" is to be that used in the Shipping Registration Act. That manner of determination is to be inserted into the Shipping Registration Act by the proposed section 5 of the Shipping Registration Amendment Act 1984.

Thus the Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy) Amendment Act cannot come into operation before Section 5 of the Shipping Registration Amendment Act. Clause 2 therefore provides for it to come into operation on the same day.

CLAUSE 3

APPLICATION OF ACT

Clause 3 provides that the Principal Act should apply to ships of 24 metres tonnage length or more instead of 100 register tons or more. (See General Outline for reasons for this change.) Provision is made for tonnage length to be determined in the same manner as for the purposes of the Shipping Registration Act.

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