

1994

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

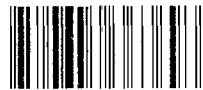
THE SENATE

STUDENT ASSISTANCE (YOUTH TRAINING ALLOWANCE) AMENDMENT BILL
1994

ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENTARY EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Further Requests for Amendments to be moved on behalf of the Government)

(Circulated by authority of the Minister for Schools, Vocational Education and Training, the
Honourable Ross Free, MP)



FURTHER REQUESTS FOR GOVERNMENT AMENDMENTS TO THE *STUDENT ASSISTANCE (YOUTH TRAINING ALLOWANCE) AMENDMENT BILL 1994*

OUTLINE

These Further Requests for Amendments respond to concerns raised by the Senate in relation to two matters:

- by ensuring that a young person who has been released from psychiatric confinement after spending at least seven days in confinement will be entitled to a double payment of youth training allowance under proposed section 124 of the *Student and Youth Assistance Act 1973* to be inserted by Clause 18 of the Bill provided the person fulfils the other requirements of the provision; and
- by reducing the period a young person will be required to have lived away from home to qualify as independent from 26 to 18 weeks in the circumstances (there are other ways of qualifying as independent) set out in proposed subclause 2(11) of Schedule 1 of the *Student and Youth Assistance Act 1973* to be inserted by Clause 18 of the Bill.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The amendment relating to the double payment of benefit on release from psychiatric confinement will not have a significant financial impact.

The amendment relating to the period a person has to live away from home to qualify as independent will cost \$160,000 per year.

NOTES ON AMENDMENTS**Amendment Number 1**

At present proposed section 124 to be inserted by Clause 18 of the Bill makes provision for a person to receive a double payment of youth training allowance when he or she is released from gaol. The amendment would amend the proposed paragraph 124(a) to make provision for a person, who has been released from psychiatric confinement that the person was undergoing for at least 7 days because he or she had been charged with committing an offence, to receive a double payment of youth training allowance provided the other requirements of the section have been fulfilled.

Amendment Number 2

At present proposed subclause 2(11) of Schedule 1 to be inserted by Clause 18 of the Bill provides that one of the ways that a person must fulfil to be regarded as independent is that he or she has lived away from home for a continuous period of at least 26 weeks. The amendment would reduce that period to 18 weeks.

