

PUBLIC FINANCE AND AUDIT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1987

NEW SOUTH WALES



EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Explanatory Note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament)

The Miscellaneous Acts (Public Finance and Audit) Amendment Bill 1987 is cognate with this Bill.

The object of this Bill is to amend the Public Finance and Audit Act 1983—

- (a) to provide that Consolidated Fund payments may be reported in summary rather than in detail in the Public Accounts, the detailed payments being included in the Estimates or in a supplementary statement;
- (b) to authorise, with the permission of the Treasurer, the investment of certain public money in a bank account rather than in an account in the Special Deposits Account;
- (c) to require a statutory body engaged in manufacturing and trading activities to include manufacturing, trading and profit and loss statements in its financial statements (or if engaged in trading activities only, to include trading and profit and loss statements);
- (d) to allow funds in credit in the Treasury Fire Risks Account in the Special Deposits Account to be invested in the same manner as money in the Consolidated Fund;
- (e) to enable the Treasurer to require a statutory authority to pay amounts (by way of dividend) to the Consolidated Fund; and
- (f) to make amendments with respect to auditing.

Public Finance and Audit (Amendment) 1987

Clause 1 specifies the short title of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 is a formal provision which gives effect to the Schedule of amendments.

Schedule 1 (1) amends section 6 of the Principal Act to provide that the Public Accounts shall include a summary only of Consolidated Fund payments and to remove the requirement that Consolidated Fund payments be reported in detail.

Schedule 1 (2) inserts proposed section 7A into the Principal Act which provides—

- (a) for the Auditor-General to certify that information relating to Consolidated Fund payments in the Budget Estimates is in accordance with the accounts and records of the Treasurer; and
- (b) for statements of Consolidated Fund payments in detail certified by the Auditor-General to be presented to the Legislative Assembly if the Budget Estimates are not tabled within 14 days of the Public Accounts.

Schedule 1 (3) amends section 17 of the Principal Act to enable the Treasurer to authorise the operation of a bank account by a statutory body specified in Schedule 2 to that Act, to close any account established in the Special Deposits Account with respect to the statutory body and to transfer the balance to the bank account.

Schedule 1 (4) (a) amends section 35 of the Principal Act to make it clear that the Auditor-General may appoint a firm to be an auditor for the purposes of the Principal Act.

Schedule 1 (4) (b) amends section 35 of the Principal Act to make it clear that the Auditor-General may authorise the Deputy Auditor-General or an auditor to report to the Treasurer on the results of an inspection, examination and audit carried out under that section.

Schedule 1 (5) amends section 39 of the Principal Act to provide for the Auditor-General to audit any trust connected with the operations of a statutory body.

Schedule 1 (6) amends section 41B of the Principal Act to require a statutory body engaged in manufacturing and trading activities to include manufacturing, trading and profit and loss statements in its financial statements (or if engaged in trading activities only, to include trading and profit and loss statements). Provision is also made to enable the Treasurer to dispense, in appropriate circumstances, with the preparation of those statements in which case the statutory body is required to include a statement of income and expenditure or of receipts and payments or a prescribed statement, as the Treasurer may direct.

Schedule 1 (7) amends section 43 of the Principal Act to make it clear that the Auditor-General may authorise the Deputy Auditor-General or an auditor to report to a statutory body, the Minister and the Treasurer on the results of an inspection and audit of the statutory body carried out under that section.

Schedule 1 (8) amends section 45I of the Principal Act to make it clear that the Auditor-General may authorise the Deputy Auditor-General or an auditor to report to the Department Head, the Minister and the Treasurer on the results of an inspection and audit of the Department carried out under that section.

Public Finance and Audit (Amendment) 1987

Schedule 1 (9) amends section 51 of the Principal Act as a consequence of the amendment made by Schedule 1 (2).

Schedule 1 (10) amends section 59A of the Principal Act to allow funds in credit in the Treasury Fire Risks Account in the Special Deposits Account to be invested in the same manner as other money in the Consolidated Fund and Special Deposits Account.

Schedule 1 (11) inserts proposed section 59B into the Principal Act to enable the Treasurer to require a statutory authority to pay, by way of dividend, to the Consolidated Fund such amounts as the Treasurer determines. The Treasurer may deem those amounts to be payment or part payment of other amounts required to be paid to the Treasurer by the statutory authority and may require the preparation of accounting statements for the determination of any such amount.
