

1992

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

SUPPLY BILL 1992-93

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Circulated by authority of

**ROSEMARY FOLLETT MLA
TREASURER**

SUPPLY BILL 1992-93

This Bill makes broad based appropriations from the Consolidated Revenue Fund in respect of the year ending 30 June 1993. The appropriations relate to payments expected to be made for the general administration of the ACT. The Bill is an interim one which will lapse upon the passing, by the Assembly, of the Appropriation Bill 1992-93.

The Bill authorises an amount of \$619,682,800 to be issued from the Consolidated Revenue Fund. This amount is expected to cover payments necessary for the continuing operation of Government services for five months, at which time it is expected that the Appropriation Bill will have come into force.

A provision of \$8m has been included for the Treasurer's Advance. This will enable additional money to be issued to a program in accordance with Section 47 of the Audit Act 1989 and provides for advances to be made that will be recovered during the financial year.

Details of the Bill are set out at Attachment A.

ATTACHMENT A

SUPPLY BILL 1992-93

Clause 1 cites the short title of the Act as being the Supply Act 1992-93 as it relates to the 1992-93 financial year.

Clause 2 provides that the Act commences on 1 July 1992 being the first day of the 1992-93 financial year.

Clause 3 authorises the Treasurer to issue \$619,682,800 from the Consolidated Revenue Fund in respect of the financial year 1992-93, as per the Schedule. Section 57 of the ACT (Self Government) Act 1989 provides that no public money in the Territory shall be issued or spent except as authorised by law.

Clause 4 deems that moneys appropriated for a particular program are also appropriated for making payments under Acts administered as part of that program and other purposes of the program. Thus, where an Act provides that moneys are payable for a specific statutory authority or purpose it does not have to be specifically cited in the Schedule in order for the payment to be lawful.

Clause 5 enables the Treasurer to issue additional funds out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for salary increases occurring after the drafting of this Act which are payable in 1992-93. The salary increases must be in accordance with a law or award, order or determination made under a law and any funds issued under this clause can only be used for this purpose. The clause provides for the Consolidation Revenue Fund to be appropriated to the extent necessary for the purpose of this section thereby eliminating the use of the Treasurer's Advance for salary increases and satisfying Section 57 of the ACT (Self Government) Act 1989.

Clause 6 enables items annotated in the Schedule as "(net appropriations - see Section 6)" to be credited with revenue received in connection with the provision of services to the Territory or Territory Authorities. The use of these items is subject to terms and conditions agreed between the Minister responsible for the item and the Treasurer.

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This clause eliminates the need for expenditure associated with recoverable works to be specifically appropriated, thus a program may expend additional moneys for another program provided the program pays for the service. The need for double appropriations distorting the level of expenditure required to perform services of the ACT Government is removed.

Clause 7 allows money credited to agency services items before 1 July 1992 for the provision of services in accordance with section 8 (c) of the Appropriation Act 1991-92 but remaining unexpended to be available for expenditure on 1 July 1992. This allows agencies to utilise credits received late in the 1991-92 financial year in return for which services are yet to be performed.

Schedule

The Schedule details the programs within the various administrative units and statutory bodies as shown essentially in the Forward Estimates Report 1992-93 to 1994-95 issued in December 1991 and the amounts which can be issued and expended for recurrent and capital purposes of those programs. In the absence of such a schedule there would be no limit on the individual programs as to the amounts which could be expended except for the total authorised in clause 3. As a result of Administrative Arrangements of 23 December 1991 and 7 April 1992 the Arts program has moved to the Department of Environment, Land and Planning and the Department of Education and the Arts has been renamed the Department of Education and Training.

The amounts specified for each program are based on providing for five months expenditure in accordance with existing policies; that is, a continuation of 1991-92 expenditure policies.