

1991

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

**SUPPLY BILL 1991-92**

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

**Circulated by authority of the Minister for Finance and Urban  
Services**

**Craig Duby**

## SUPPLY BILL 1991-92

This Bill makes broad based appropriations from the Consolidated Revenue Fund in respect of the year ending 30 June 1992. 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 1991-92.

The Bill authorises an amount of \$585,749,200 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 \$12,000,000 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 1991-92

Clause 1 cites the short title of the Act as being the Supply Act 1991-92 as it relates to the 1991-92 financial year.

Clause 2 provides that the Act commences on 1 July 1991 being the first day of the 1991-92 financial year.

Clause 3 authorises the Treasurer to issue \$585,749,200 from the Consolidated Revenue Fund in respect of the financial year 1991-92, 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 1991-92. 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 Consolidated 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. The use of these items is subject to terms and conditions agreed between the Minister responsible for the item and the Treasurer.

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 or client provided the client 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 for money received for the provision of services in accordance with section 8 of the Appropriation Act 1990-91 to be used for payment of these services. This allows agencies to utilise credits received late in the 1990-91 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 in the Forward Estimates Report 1991-92 to 1993-94 December 1990 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.

The amounts specified for each program are based on providing for five months expenditure in accordance with existing policies; that is, a continuation of 1990-91 expenditure policies.