

STATES GRANTS (DROUGHT RELIEF).

No. 43 of 1944.

An Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a Sum for the purpose of making Grants to certain States for the purpose of Drought Relief.

[Assented to 7th December, 1944.]

[Date of commencement, 4th January, 1945.]

Preamble.

BE it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, the Senate, and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, for the purpose of appropriating the grant originated in the House of Representatives, as follows :—

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the *States Grants (Drought Relief) Act* 1944.

Definition.

2. In this Act, "cereal crops" means crops of wheat, oats or barley or wheaten or oaten hay.

Payment for financial assistance to certain States.

3. There shall be payable out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, which is hereby appropriated accordingly, the amounts payable in accordance with this Act, but not exceeding in the whole the sum of One million five hundred thousand pounds, for the purpose of financial assistance to the States of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia, or such of those States as the Governor-General, having regard to the effects of drought on cereal crops in each of those States, determines.

Allocation of grant.

4. The amount payable to each State under this Act shall be such amount as the Governor-General determines, but no such determination shall be made until after the Minister has conferred with the Premiers of each of the States to which an amount is payable under this Act concerning the amounts to be paid to those States.

5. Any amount granted and paid to a State under this Act shall be paid to that State upon condition— Conditions of grant.

- (a) that it is applied by that State, in a manner approved by the Minister, for the purpose of the alleviation of hardship suffered, in consequence of drought, by persons concerned in the production of cereal crops ; and
 - (b) that an equal amount will be made available by the State and that the amount so made available will be applied by the State for the same purpose, and in the same manner, as the amount payable to that State under this Act.
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