



# **Telecommunications (Universal Service Levy) Act 1997**

**No. 53, 1997**

**An Act to impose a levy in connection with ensuring that standard telephone services, payphones and prescribed carriage services are reasonably accessible to all people in Australia**



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**An Act to impose a levy in connection with ensuring that standard telephone services, payphones and prescribed carriage services are reasonably accessible to all people in Australia**

*[Assented to 24 April 1997]*

The Parliament of Australia enacts:

## **1 Short title**

This Act may be cited as the *Telecommunications (Universal Service Levy) Act 1997*.

## **2 Commencement**

This Act commences on 1 July 1997.

### **3 Act to bind Crown**

This Act binds the Crown in right of each of the States, of the Australian Capital Territory, of the Northern Territory and of Norfolk Island.

### **4 Extension to external Territories**

This Act extends to each external Territory referred to in section 139 of the *Telecommunications Act 1997*.

### **5 Definition**

In this Act:

*participating carrier* has the same meaning as in section 146 of the *Telecommunications Act 1997*.

### **6 Imposition of levy**

If a participating carrier in relation to a financial year has a levy debit balance for the financial year because of section 197 of the *Telecommunications Act 1997*, levy is imposed on that balance.

### **7 Amount of levy**

The amount of a levy that this Act imposes on a levy debit balance for a financial year is equal to that balance.

### **8 Carrier liable to pay levy**

Levy imposed on a participating carrier's levy debit balance is payable by the participating carrier.

(160/96)

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[*Minister's second reading speech made in—  
House of Representatives on 5 December 1996  
Senate on 25 February 1997*]



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I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above is a fair print of the Telecommunications (Universal Service Levy) Bill 1997 which originated in the House of Representatives as the Telecommunications (Universal Service Levy) Bill 1996 and has been finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives.

*Clerk of the House of Representatives*

IN THE NAME OF HER MAJESTY, I assent to this Act.

*Governor-General*  
1997