

States Grants (Primary and Secondary Education Assistance) Amendment Regulations 2002 (No. 1) 2002 No. 233

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Statutory Rules 2002 No. 233

Issued by the authority of the Minister for Education, Science and Training

States Grants (Primary and Secondary Education Assistance) Act 2000

States Grants (Primary and Secondary Education Assistance) Amendment Regulations 2002 (No. 1)

The *States Grants (Primary and Secondary Education Assistance) Act 2000* (the Act) provides for the payment of financial assistance to government and non-government schools for the 2001 to 2004 period.

Section 118 of the Act provides that the Governor-General may make regulations for the purposes of the Act.

Subsection 102(1) of the Act allows the making of regulations to specify an amount to replace the Average Government School Recurrent Costs (AGSRC) specified in Schedule 1 to the Act for a program year. Subsection 102(3) of the Act requires the Minister to consider changes in the Average Government School Costs (AGSC) published from time to time by the Ministerial Council of Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA), before the Governor-General makes regulations specifying an amount to replace the AGSRC amount for a program year.

Sections 105 and 106 also allow the making of regulations to permit the adjustment of recurrent grants and capital grants for both government and non-government schools, to reflect supplementation for inflation.

Subsection 105(4) requires the Minister to consider changes in AGSC figures published from time to time by the MCEETYA before the Governor-General makes the regulations providing for adjustments to recurrent grants. Subsection 106(3) also requires the Minister to consider changes in an index of building prices and an index of wage costs published from time to time by the Australian Statistician, before the Governor-General makes regulations providing for adjustments to capital grants for government and non-government schools.

The purpose of the proposed regulations is to supplement funding for primary and secondary education, recurrent grants and capital grants for both government and non-government schools for 2002, 2003 and 2004.

The effect of this Regulation is to provide an additional \$260.0 million in 2002 and an additional \$841.1 million for the 2001-2004 quadrenniums over the legislated amounts for the General Recurrent Grants, Grants of Transitional Emergency Assistance for Non-government Schools, Grants for Establishment Assistance and Grants for Targeted Assistance. They also provide an additional \$7.6 million in 2002 and an additional \$23.2 million for the 2001-2004 quadrennium for the Capital Grants program.

The Regulations commenced on the date of gazettal.

A Regulation Impact Statement was not prepared because the Regulations have no impact on business.