

Financial Management (Amendment) Bill

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

PART 1—PRELIMINARY

- Clause 1 sets out the purpose of the Act.
- Clause 2 provides for the commencement of the Act on the day on which it receives Royal Assent.
- Clause 3 specifies that the Principal Act for the purposes of this Act is the **Financial Management Act 1994**.
- Clause 4 – substitutes "financial statement" for "statement of financial operations" in the heading to Part 5 and in sections 24, 25 and 26(1).
- amends sections 26(1), 26(2), 26(3), 26(4) and 26(5) to vary the timetable for the Auditor-General's report as follows:
- A copy of the annual financial statement must be given to the Auditor-General by 8 September instead of 15 September.
 - The Auditor-General must report on the annual financial statement within 2 weeks after receiving the report where no time limit has previously been stated.
 - The Auditor-General must, at least 7 days before the report is made, give a copy of the report to the Minister instead of 10 days.
 - The Minister may make submissions or comment to the Auditor-General on the copy of the report within 5 days after the copy is given to the Minister instead of 7 days.
 - The Auditor-General must include in the report any submissions or comment made by the Minister within 5 days after the copy is given to the Minister instead of 7 days.
- Clause 5 substitutes a new section 27 providing that the Minister must cause a copy of the annual financial statement for a financial year, together with a copy of the Auditor-General's report on that statement, to be laid before each house of Parliament within 7 sitting days of the House after 30 September next following that year instead of on or before 15 October.

- Clause 6** amends section 46(1) to provide that the relevant Minister of a department or public body must cause the report of operations and audited financial statements of the department or public body for a financial year to be laid before each House of the Parliament after the end of that financial year and before the end of the next following fourth month of the year or on the first sitting day of the House after the end of that month instead of on or before 31 October each year or, if the House is not then sitting, on the first sitting day of the House after 31 October.
- Clause 7** New section 62A is a transitional provision.
- Clause 8** makes statute law revision amendments.