

# Victorian Relief Committee (Amendment) Bill

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

### Outline

The purpose of this Bill is to empower the Victorian Relief Committee to engage paid staff, to ensure that it is financially accountable to Government with respect to accounts and records, annual reporting, audit and investment powers, and to change criteria for appointment to the Committee and its maximum size.

### Clause Notes

*Clause 1* sets out the purpose of the Act.

*Clause 2* provides for the commencement of the Act on a day or days to be proclaimed.

*Clause 3* identifies the *Victorian Relief Committee Act 1958* as the Principal Act.

*Clause 4* changes the composition of the Committee by specifying that eight of the members of the Committee be persons with experience in designated fields, with provision for the appointment of up to two further persons possessing skills which would benefit the Committee.

*Clause 5* will enable the Committee to invest donated money in any manner approved by the Treasurer.

*Clause 6* inserts a new section 6A into the Principal Act, empowering the Committee to employ paid staff.

*Clause 7* will oblige the Committee to keep sufficient accounts and records to ensure financial accountability by requiring the Committee to prepare and submit an annual report to the Minister, obliging the Committee to have financial statements audited at its own expense by the Auditor-General, and making available to the Auditor-General all necessary assistance for this purpose.

