

1993

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION AMENDMENT BILL 1993

SUPPLEMENTARY EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The Australian Broadcasting Corporation Amendment Bill 1993 originally introduced in the Senate contained amendments to simplify and update the technical services provisions of the Act. Those amendments were omitted by the Senate.

A close examination of the technical services provisions following the making of those amendments has made it clear that many of the archaic definitions in the Act can be removed without affecting the operation of those provisions. (Some of the archaic definitions in the Act, including the definition of 'wireless telegraphy', still remain necessary for the operation of the provisions).

Amendment (1) substitutes a new clause 3 in the Bill which omits the unnecessary definitions.

Schedule 1 to the Bill modernises the terminology in the Act by removing an outdated distinction between broadcasting (meaning broadcasting by radio) and television. This distinction has been removed from other legislation affecting broadcasting services.

Amendment (1) also inserts a definition of 'program' in the Act which supports this modernisation of terminology.

Amendment (2) includes two further amendments in Schedule 1 which ensure that the outdated distinction between broadcasting and television is also removed from the technical services provisions retained as a result of the Senate amendments.

Amendment (3) omits from Schedule 1 three minor amendments which are unnecessary because of clause 14 of the Bill.

The amendments have no implications for Commonwealth expenditure or revenue.

(Circulated by authority of the Minister for Transport and Communications, Senator the Hon. Bob Collins)



