

Dental Technicians (Licences) Bill

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Clause 1 sets out the purposes of the Bill. These are—

- (a) to remove the limits on fees for licences fixed under the *Dental Technicians Act 1972*;
- (b) to remove the minimum age limitation for licensing as an advanced dental technician; and
- (c) to increase penalties for offences under the Act.

Clause 2 is the commencement provision. It states that the Act will come into operation 28 days after the day it receives the Royal Assent.

Clause 3 defines the *Dental Technicians Act 1972* as being the Principal Act.

Clause 4 deletes the expression “which shall not exceed \$15” (whenever occurring) in section 11 (1), 11 (2), 26 (1) and 26 (2) of the Principal Act. The overall effect is to remove the present \$15 ceiling on the fees for licences and for renewal of licences which may be prescribed in regulations made under the Act.

Clause 5 repeals section 21 (a) of the Principal Act. Section 21 specifies that, in order to be qualified as an advanced dental technician, a person must be 21 years of age, be licensed or be entitled to be licensed as a dental technician, and have completed an approved course of training for advanced dental technicians. The clause will delete the first of these requirements, namely, that the person must have attained the age of 21 years.

Clause 6 revises the penalties contained in section 15, 32 and 34 of the Principal Act, and expresses such penalties as penalty units.

