



Radio Licence Fees Amendment Bill 2007

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Law and Bills Digest Section

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Radio Licence Fees Amendment Bill 2007

Date introduced: 28 March 2007

House: House of Representatives

Portfolio: Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

Commencement: On the day after the Act receives Royal Assent

Purpose

The Radio Licence Fees Amendment Bill 2007 complements the Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Radio) Bill 2007 (the Digital Radio Bill) which implements the government's policy for the introduction of digital radio services in Australia (see: [Bills Digest](#)).¹

The Radio Licence Fees Amendment Bill seeks to amend the *Radio Licence Fees Act 1964* to ensure that all revenue earned from analogue *and* digital radio broadcasting services is counted for the purposes of calculating the radio broadcasting licence fee.

Financial implications

The Explanatory Memorandum states that the Radio Licence Fees Amendment Bill is likely to result in increased revenue to the government from broadcasting licence fees, but it is not possible to quantify the amount.²

Main provisions

Schedule 1 amends subsection 4(1) of the *Radio Licence Fees Act 1964*, to state:

After "service", insert "or services".

This amendment is related to amendments in the Digital Radio Bill, which provide that a commercial radio broadcasting licence will authorise the provision of more than one service from digital radio 'start-up day'.³

Warning:

This Digest was prepared for debate. It reflects the legislation as introduced and does not canvass subsequent amendments.

This Digest does not have any official legal status. Other sources should be consulted to determine the subsequent official status of the Bill.

Endnotes

1. Bronwen Jagers, Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Radio) Bill 2007, *Bills Digest No. 142, 2006-07*, Parliamentary Library, Canberra, 8 May 2007.
<http://www.aph.gov.au/library/pubs/bd/2006-07/07bd142.pdf>
2. Explanatory Memorandum, p. 4.
3. Explanatory Memorandum, p. 91.

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