

# SALES TAX ASSESSMENT (No. 8) AMENDMENT ACT 1978

## No. 204 of 1978

An Act to amend the *Sales Tax Assessment Act (No. 8) 1930*.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen, and the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, as follows:

1. (1) This Act may be cited as the *Sales Tax Assessment (No. 8) Amendment Act 1978*.<sup>1</sup> Short title,  
&c.

(2) The *Sales Tax Assessment Act (No. 8) 1930*<sup>2</sup> is in this Act referred to as the Principal Act.

2. This Act shall come into operation on the day on which it receives the Royal Assent.<sup>1</sup> Commence-  
ment

3. Section 4 of the Principal Act is amended—

(a) by omitting “For the purposes of this Act” and substituting “Subject to sub-section (3) of this section, to section 4A and to sub-sections (5B) and (5C) of section 18 of the *Sales Tax Assessment Act (No. 1) 1930* in their application in accordance with section 12 of this Act, for the purposes of this Act”; and

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goods

(b) by adding at the end thereof the following sub-sections:

“(2) Where—

(a) goods (in this sub-section referred to as the ‘relevant goods’) imported into Australia that have been purchased after 20 September 1978 by a registered person who has quoted his certificate in respect of those goods have been applied by the purchaser to his own use;

(b) the Commissioner is satisfied that, having regard to any connection between the vendor and the purchaser of the relevant goods or to any other relevant circumstances (including circumstances arising out of any agreement entered into between the vendor and the purchaser, or out of any other agreement, that was related, directly or indirectly, to the sale of the goods), the vendor and the purchaser were not dealing with each other at arm’s length in relation to the transaction; and

- (c) the Commissioner is also satisfied—
- (i) that the amount for which the relevant goods were purchased is less than the amount (in this sub-section referred to as the ‘arm’s length price’) for which, in the opinion of the Commissioner, the relevant goods could reasonably be expected to have been purchased if the vendor and the purchaser had been dealing with each other at arm’s length in relation to the transaction; or
  - (ii) that—
    - (A) the purchaser could have purchased identical goods from another person by wholesale and obtained delivery of the identical goods at or about the time when the purchaser obtained delivery of the relevant goods; and
    - (B) the amount for which the relevant goods were purchased is less than the amount (in this sub-section referred to as the ‘alternative price’) for which, in the opinion of the Commissioner, the identical goods could reasonably be expected to have been purchased by the purchaser,

the Commissioner shall alter the sale value of the relevant goods to the amount ascertained in accordance with the following paragraphs:

- (d) if the Commissioner is satisfied as to the matter mentioned in sub-paragraph (i) of paragraph (c) but not as to the matters mentioned in sub-paragraph (ii) of that paragraph—an amount equal to the arm’s length price;
- (e) if the Commissioner is satisfied as to the matters mentioned in sub-paragraph (ii) of paragraph (c) but not as to the matter mentioned in sub-paragraph (i) of that paragraph—an amount equal to the alternative price;
- (f) if the Commissioner is satisfied as to the matter mentioned in sub-paragraph (i) of paragraph (c) and also as to the matters mentioned in sub-paragraph (ii) of that paragraph—an amount equal to the lesser of—
  - (i) the arm’s length price; and
  - (ii) the alternative price.

“(3) Where the Commissioner alters the sale value of goods in pursuance of sub-section (2), the sale value so altered shall be the sale value of the goods for the purposes of this Act.

“(4) In sub-section (2)—

- (a) ‘agreement’ means any agreement, arrangement or understanding—
  - (i) whether formal or informal;
  - (ii) whether express or implied; or
  - (iii) whether or not enforceable, or intended to be enforceable, by legal proceedings; and
- (b) a reference to identical goods shall be read as a reference to goods identical in all material respects with the goods in relation to which the expression is used.”.

4. After section 4 of the Principal Act the following section is inserted:

“4A. (1) Where—

- (a) goods (in this sub-section referred to as the ‘relevant goods’) imported into Australia that have been purchased by a registered person who has quoted his certificate in respect of those goods have been applied by the purchaser to his own use;
- (b) under an agreement entered into for the purpose, or for purposes that included the purpose, of securing that the amount of the sale value of the relevant goods would be less than the amount that could reasonably be expected to be the amount of the sale value of the relevant goods if the agreement had not been entered into, valuable consideration (in this section referred to as the ‘relevant consideration’) has been given, directly or indirectly, by the purchaser, or by another person, to the vendor or another person for, or in connection with, any of, or any 2 or more of, the following acts:
  - (i) the grant of a right or option to purchase goods;
  - (ii) the exercise, in whole or in part, of a right or option to purchase goods;
  - (iii) the surrender or other termination, in whole or in part, of a right or option to purchase goods;
  - (iv) allowing a right or option to purchase goods to lapse in whole or in part;
  - (v) the assignment, in whole or in part, of a right or option to purchase goods;
  - (vi) the provision of, or procuring the provision of, services in connection with the relevant goods; and
- (c) the relevant goods were purchased—
  - (i) in a case where the relevant consideration has been so given, in whole or in part, for, or in connection with, any of, or any 2 or more of, any acts referred to in subparagraphs (i) to (v) (inclusive) of paragraph (b)—after 20 September 1978; or

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goods in  
special cases

- (ii) if sub-paragraph (i) does not apply but the relevant consideration has been given for, or in connection with, any acts referred to in sub-paragraph (vi) of paragraph (b)—after 16 November 1978,

the sale value of the relevant goods shall, for the purposes of this Act, be determined in accordance with the provisions of this section and not in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (1) or (2) of section 4.

“(2) In sub-section (1)—

- (a) a reference to a right or option to purchase goods shall be read as a reference to a right or option (including a contingent right or option) to purchase—

- (i) goods, as defined in sub-section (1) of section 3 of the *Sales Tax Assessment Act (No. 1) 1930* in its application in accordance with section 12 of this Act;

- (ii) excluded goods; or

- (iii) goods as so defined and excluded goods,

whether ascertained or not and whether they comprise or include the relevant goods or not; and

- (b) a reference to services in connection with the relevant goods shall be read as a reference to services in connection with the relevant goods or with the relevant goods and other goods (including excluded goods) and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, shall be read as including a reference to—

- (i) the doing of any act or thing in relation to the importation or marketing of the relevant goods or the relevant goods and other goods (including excluded goods);

- (ii) the giving of a guarantee or warranty in respect of the relevant goods or the relevant goods and other goods (including excluded goods); or

- (iii) the doing of any act or thing in relation to the relevant goods or the relevant goods and other goods (including excluded goods) after their purchase.

“(3) For the purposes of sub-section (1), where any valuable consideration given under an agreement entered into for the purpose, or for purposes that included the purpose, of securing that the amount of the sale value of the relevant goods would be less than the amount that could reasonably be expected to be the amount of the sale value of the relevant goods if the agreement had not been entered into is required to be calculated by reference to the value or quantity of goods (which may include excluded goods) purchased by the purchaser of the relevant goods, the valuable consideration shall be deemed to have been given under an agreement for or in connection with the doing of acts by way of the provision of services in connection with the relevant goods.

“(4) Subject to sub-section (5), for the purposes of this Act, the sale value of goods the sale value of which is required to be determined in accordance with the provisions of this section is—

- (a) if the relevant goods are of a class which the person from whom the goods were purchased himself sells by wholesale—the amount for which the goods could reasonably be expected to have been purchased by the purchaser from that person by wholesale if no agreement of a kind referred to in paragraph (b) of sub-section (1) had been entered into in relation to the purchase of the goods; or
- (b) in any other case—the amount for which the purchaser could reasonably be expected to have purchased identical goods from another person if the other person had, in the ordinary course of his business, sold them to the purchaser by wholesale and no agreement of a kind referred to in paragraph (b) of sub-section (1) had been entered into in relation to the purchase of the identical goods.

“(5) Where—

- (a) the sale value of the relevant goods is required to be determined, for the purposes of this Act, in accordance with the provisions of this section;
- (b) the Commissioner is satisfied that, having regard to any connection between the vendor and the purchaser of the relevant goods or to any other relevant circumstances (including circumstances arising out of any agreement entered into between the vendor and the purchaser, or out of any other agreement, that is related, directly or indirectly, to the sale of the relevant goods), the vendor and the purchaser were not dealing with each other at arm’s length in relation to the transaction; and
- (c) the Commissioner is also satisfied—
  - (i) that the amount for which the relevant goods were purchased is less than the amount (in this section referred to as the ‘arm’s length price’) for which, in the opinion of the Commissioner, the relevant goods could reasonably be expected to have been purchased if the vendor and the purchaser had been dealing with each other at arm’s length in relation to the transaction and no agreement of a kind referred to in paragraph (b) of sub-section (1) had been entered into in relation to the purchase of the relevant goods; or
  - (ii) that—
    - (A) the purchaser could have purchased identical goods from another person and obtained delivery of the identical goods at or about the time when the purchaser obtained delivery of the relevant goods; and

- (B) the amount for which the relevant goods were purchased is less than the amount (in this section referred to as the ‘alternative price’) for which, in the opinion of the Commissioner, the identical goods could reasonably be expected to have been purchased by the purchaser if no agreement of a kind referred to in paragraph (b) of sub-section (1) had been entered into in relation to the purchase of the identical goods,

the Commissioner shall alter the sale value of the relevant goods to the amount ascertained in accordance with sub-section (6), and the sale value so altered shall be the sale value of the relevant goods for the purposes of this Act.

“(6) The amount ascertained in relation to the relevant goods for the purposes of sub-section (5) is—

- (a) if the Commissioner is satisfied as to the matter mentioned in sub-paragraph (i) of paragraph (c) of sub-section (5) but not as to the matters mentioned in sub-paragraph (ii) of that paragraph—an amount equal to the arm’s length price;
- (b) if the Commissioner is satisfied as to the matters mentioned in sub-paragraph (ii) of paragraph (c) of sub-section (5) but not as to the matter mentioned in sub-paragraph (i) of that paragraph—an amount equal to the alternative price; or
- (c) if the Commissioner is satisfied as to the matter mentioned in sub-paragraph (i) of paragraph (c) of sub-section (5) and also to the matters mentioned in sub-paragraph (ii) of that paragraph—an amount equal to the lesser of—
  - (i) the arm’s length price; and
  - (ii) the alternative price.

“(7) For the purposes of this section, an agreement shall be taken to have been entered into for a particular purpose, or for purposes that include a particular purpose, if any of the parties to the agreement entered into the agreement for that purpose or for purposes that included that purpose.

“(8) In this section—

- (a) a reference to excluded goods shall be read as a reference to goods, including commodities, of a kind referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) of the definition of ‘goods’ in sub-section (1) of section 3 of the *Sales Tax Assessment Act (No. 1) 1930* in its application in accordance with section 12 of this Act; and
- (b) a reference to identical goods shall be read as a reference to goods identical in all material respects with the goods in relation to which the expression is used.

“(9) In this section, ‘agreement’ means any agreement, arrangement or understanding—

- (a) whether formal or informal;
- (b) whether express or implied; or
- (c) whether or not enforceable, or intended to be enforceable, by legal proceedings.”.

5. Section 5 of the Principal Act is repealed and the following section substituted:

“5. Where goods imported into Australia are purchased by a registered person who has quoted his certificate in respect of the goods and are applied by the purchaser to his own use, sales tax shall be paid by the purchaser of the goods.”. Liability for tax

6. Section 10 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after sub-section (1) the following sub-section: Further tax

“(1AA) Where, under sub-section (2) of section 4 or sub-section (5) of section 4A, the sale value of any goods has been altered, the Commissioner shall calculate the further tax (if any) payable in consequence of that alteration.”.

7. The Principal Act is amended as set out in the Schedule.

Formal amendments

8. (1) Where—

Liability to pay sales tax

- (a) sales tax was not payable, or would not be payable, under the Principal Act on the sale value of any goods that were purchased by a person before the day on which this Act receives the Royal Assent but is payable on the sale value of those goods under the Principal Act as amended by this Act; or
- (b) the amount of sales tax that was payable, or would be payable, under the Principal Act on the sale value of any goods that were purchased by a person before the day on which this Act receives the Royal Assent is less than the amount of sales tax that is payable on the sale value of those goods under the Principal Act as amended by this Act,

the person liable to pay sales tax on the sale value of the goods under the Principal Act as amended by this Act shall pay the sales tax, or the further sales tax, as the case may be, that is so payable on the sale value of those goods within 21 days after the close of the month in which this Act receives the Royal Assent.

(2) The Principal Act as amended by this Act applies to and in relation to sales tax, or further sales tax, payable by a person on the sale value of goods in accordance with sub-section (1) as if the sales tax or further sales tax were payable on the sale value of the goods under section 9 of the Principal Act as amended by this Act and the goods had been purchased by the person in the month in which this Act receives the Royal Assent.

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## SCHEDULE

Section 7

### FORMAL AMENDMENTS

1. The following provisions of the Principal Act are amended by omitting any number expressed in words that is used, whether with or without the addition of a letter or letters, to identify a section of that Act or of another Act, and substituting the number expressed in figures:

Sections 6, 9 and 12.

2. The following provisions of the Principal Act are amended by omitting the words "of this Act":

Sections 6 and 9.

3. The Principal Act is further amended as set out in the following table:

Provision	Amendment
Section 3 . . . . .	(a) Omit " , either before or after the commencement of this Act," (b) Omit " , on or after the first day of August one thousand nine hundred and thirty"
Section 8 . . . . .	Omit "the last preceding section", substitute "section 7".
Section 10 (1B) . . . . .	Omit "the last preceding sub-section", substitute "sub-section (1A)".
Section 11 (2) . . . . .	Omit " , either before or after the commencement of this sub-section,"
Section 12 (1) . . . . .	(a) Omit "the Second Schedule", substitute "the Schedule". (b) Omit "of this Act" (second, third and fourth occurring).
Section 12 (2) . . . . .	(a) Omit "the last preceding sub-section", substitute "sub-section (1) of this section". (b) Omit "of Part X."

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## NOTES

1. Act No. 204, 1978; assented to 6 December 1978.
2. Act No. 37, 1930, as amended. For previous amendments *see* Act No. 69, 1930; No. 37, 1931; Nos. 45 and 64, 1932; Nos. 17, 25 and 53, 1933; Nos. 16 and 62, 1934; Nos. 45 and 61, 1935; No. 78, 1936; No. 93, 1966; and No. 216, 1973 (as amended by No. 20, 1974).