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GENERAL NOTICE

NOTICE 2080 OF 1999

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PUBLICATION OF EXPLANATORY SUMMARIES OF THE NATIONAL STUDENT FINANCIAL AID SCHEME BILL, 1999, THE HIGHER EDUCATION AMENDMENT BILL, 1999 AND THE EDUCATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL, 1999

The Minister of Education intends introducing the National Student Financial Aid Scheme Bill, 1999, the Higher Education Amendment Bill, 1999 and the Education Laws Amendment Bill, 1999 in the National Assembly early in September 1999. The explanatory summaries of the Bills are hereby published in accordance with Rule 241(c) of the Rules of the National Assembly.

The National Student Financial Aid Scheme Bill, 1999 provides for:

The establishment of the National Student Financial Aid Scheme; the management, governance and administration of the National Student Financial Aid Scheme; the granting of loans and bursaries to eligible students at public higher education institutions and for the administration of such loans and bursaries; the recovery of loans; and for matters connected therewith.

Higher Education Amendment Bill, 1999 provides for:

The amendment of the Higher Education Act, 1997, so as to provide that the principal is the chairperson of the senate and the registrar of a public higher education institution is the secretary of the council; the election of the chairperson of the council from the external members of the council; the empowerment of a council to differentiate between foreign students who are not permanent residents and students who are citizens or permanent residents; the empowerment of the Minister to appoint a financial manager; the empowerment of the Minister to designate the Director-General as the registrar of private higher education institutions; the delegation of powers by the principal and the CHE; and matters connected therewith.

Education Laws Amendment Bill, 1999 provides for:

The amendment of the South African Certification Council Act, 1986 so as to substitute certain definitions, the deletion of others and to insert two new definitions; new functions of an examining body, the Director-General and the council, with regard to examinations; the allowance to the council to prescribe fees for the issuing or endorsement of a certificate; and the removal of obsolete references from the long title; the amendment of the National Education Policy Act, 1996 so as to make certain technical adjustments; the amendment of the South African Schools Act, 1996 so as to substitute certain definitions; the merging of two or more public schools and to regulate the consequences of such merger; the temporary closure of a public school in the event of an emergency; an additional function of a governing body; further provision regarding co-opted members of governing bodies; certain technical adjustments; and further provision regarding claims for damages; the amendment of the Employment of Educators Act, 1998 so as to make provision for a timeframe within which a governing body or Council must make its recommendations when an educator is appointed; that in the case of temporary transfers no recommendation of a governing body or council is needed; the repeal of the provisions dealing with misconduct and incapacity; and for matters connected therewith.

Copies of the Bills can be obtained:

1. **Government Printers**
— Cape Town & Pretoria

2. **Department of Education**
Mr E Segabutla
120 Plein Street
Room 276, Parliament
Cape Town
Telephone (021) 465 7350

3. **Mr P Lebeko**
Clerk of Papers
Parliament
Cape Town
Telephone (021) 403 2224/6

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