



AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

SERVICE REVENUES :

A TAXATION PERSPECTIVE

BY

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

		<u>Page</u>
<u>Chapter 1 Introduction</u>		
1.1	Introduction.....	1
1.2	Motivation	2
1.3	Significance	4
1.4	Hypothesis.....	5
1.5	The method.....	7
1.6	Chapter descriptions	12
<u>Chapter 2 Taxation in Australia</u>		
<u>A Retrospective</u>		
2.1	Introduction.....	15
2.2	The power to tax in Australia.....	15
2.3	The origins of taxation in Australia	18
2.4	Conclusion	36

TABLE OF CONTENTS (continued)

		<u>Page</u>
<u>Chapter 3 The Definition of Taxation</u>		
<u>A Review of the Literature</u>		
3.1	Introduction.....	38
3.2	Taxation.....	38
3.2.1	'a compulsory exaction of money'.....	40
3.2.2	'by a public authority for public purposes'	47
3.2.2.1	'public authority'	47
3.2.2.2	'for public purposes'	64
3.2.3	'enforceable by law'	71
3.2.4	'is not a payment for services rendered'	74
3.2.4.1	when a service is rendered	74
3.2.4.2	the payment.....	81
3.3	Apportionment of payments	85
3.4	Conclusions.....	88

Chapter 4 The Meaning of Cost within the Definition of Taxation

4.1	Introduction.....	93
4.2	A review of Court decisions	96
4.3	Conclusion	119

TABLE OF CONTENTS (continued)

		<u>Page</u>
<u>Chapter 5 A Hypothetical Example</u>		
5.1	Introduction.....	123
5.2	The example	124
5.3	Conclusion	134
<u>Chapter 6 Sources of Data</u>		
6.1	Introduction.....	136
6.2	Data Selection	136
6.3	Reason for the elimination of 22 PSE's.....	142
6.4	Conclusion	149
<u>Chapter 7 An Analysis of Public Sector Entities</u>		
7.1	Introduction.....	151
7.2	Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)	153
7.3	Australia Post (AP)	169
7.4	Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).....	183
7.5	Federal Airports Corporation (FAC)	197
7.6	Telstra	202
7.6.1	Telstra	204
7.6.2	Australian and Overseas Telecommunications Commission(AOTC)	212
7.6.3	Telecom.....	227

TABLE OF CONTENTS (continued)

Page

Chapter 7 An Analysis of Public Sector Entities (continued)

7.6.4	OTC Limited.....	242
7.6.5	Overseas Telecommunications Commission (OTC).....	250
7.7	Conclusions.....	258

Chapter 8 Quantification of the amount of Taxation

8.1	Introduction.....	261
8.2	Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)	262
8.3	Australia Post (AP)	268
8.4	Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)	275
8.5	Overseas Telecommunications Commission (OTC).....	282
8.6	OTC Limited.....	285
8.7	Australian Telecommunications Corporation (Telecom).....	290
8.8	Australian and overseas Telecommunications Commission (AOTC)	293 294
8.9	Conclusion	298

TABLE OF CONTENTS (continued)

		<u>Page</u>
<u>Chapter 9 Conclusions, Implications and</u>		
<u>Further Research</u>		
9.1	Introduction.....	302
9.2	Conclusions.....	302
9.3	Implications.....	308
9.3.1	The repercussions	308
9.3.2	The effects on Government financial and accounting reforms.....	312
9.4	Further research.	312
 <u>References</u>		315

ABSTRACT

This thesis investigates an argument that some of the revenue of Australian Federal Government entities may be taxation that is not legally imposed. In particular it is concerned with the revenue of such entities that is used to fund the payment of dividends and income taxes to the government.

The Australian Constitution prescribes a stricter process for the legitimate imposition of taxation than other laws. This is the result of English history inherited by Australia. The Australian Constitution, however, does not define taxation and this has been left to the Courts. A definition of taxation is determined with respect to the argument in this thesis.

The thesis tests this definition of taxation to a hypothetical example to ascertain whether there is a possibility that taxation is occurring. The conclusion is that it can. The testing is then extended to the whole of the Australian Federal Government, using 1994 as a base. The result of the testing is that Australian Federal Government entities are receiving taxation in the disguise of revenue. The examination then takes this conclusion and addresses whether the taxation is illegal. It is then further concluded that some part of that taxation was received illegally.