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Constitutional dimensions of State executive power: An analysis of the power to contract and spend – Selena Bateman

This article examines the power of Australian State Executives to contract and spend in light of the High Court’s decision in Williams v Commonwealth. After first examining the key cases, which have developed the executive contracting power of the States, the article looks closely at the Court’s reasoning in Williams and argues, from a doctrinal perspective, that the decision has a significant impact on State executive power. The article then argues that the Williams decision, in regards to the Commonwealth executive power, better fulfils the principles of responsible and representative government in the Australian constitutional system and a case is made for applying a similar limitation on State government contracting. .............................................................. 255

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Justice Hayne’s contribution to public law: An overview – Justice Geoffrey Nettle

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