COVID-19 legislative scrutiny

July 2021

1 – 8 July 2021

Bill/ Instrument	Date registered/ introduced	Description
Health Insurance Legislation Amendment (Section 3C General Medical Services – GP Mental Health Treatment Plan Review) Determination (No. 2) 2021 [F2021L00944]	01/07/2021	This instrument reinstates item 92126 on the General Medical Services table (which provides for a general practitioner phone attendance service to review a GP mental health treatment plan or a psychiatrist assessment and management plan).
Health Insurance (Section 3C General Medical Services – General Practice Attendance for Assessing Patient Suitability for a COVID-19 Vaccine) Amendment (No. 3) Determination 2021 [F2021L00943]	01/07/2021	This instrument removes the age requirements for patients to access the COVID-19 vaccine suitability assessment items including the two in-depth assessment items, applies indexation to the two in-depth assessment items and makes administrative changes to the two in-depth assessment items.
Defence Determination, Conditions of service Amendment Determination 2021 (No. 11) [F2021L00945]	02/07/2021	This instrument extends by 1 year the provision of education assistance for the children of members on a long-term posting overseas who stayed in the United States of America during the COVID-19 evacuation consistent with DFAT advice concerning the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on government schools in the United States of America.
Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Amendment (Prime Minister and Cabinet Measures No. 3) Regulations 2021 [F2021L00967]	08/07/2021	This instrument amends the legislative authority for spending on the COVID-19 disaster payment, removing the requirement to have liquid assets of less than $10,000 for those recipients who are in their second week of eligibility for the payment.
Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Amendment (Prime Minister and Cabinet Measures No.	08/07/2021	This instrument amends the legislative authority for spending on the COVID-19 disaster payment, extending the eligibility for the payment to certain persons who are, or were, unable to earn their usual income as a result of being present in another location

2) Regulations 2021 [F2021L00966]		in Australia at a time that it was subject to a state or territory public health order (the second public health order) restricting the movement of persons for a period of more than seven days because they were previously present in the hotspot area.

9-15 July 2021

Bill/ Instrument	Date registered/ introduced	Description
Therapeutic Goods Amendment (Therapeutic Goods Advertising Code) Instrument (No. 2) 2021 [F2021L00978]	09/07/2021	This instrument replaces references to the Therapeutic Goods (Restricted Representations—COVID-19 Vaccines) Permission 2021 with references to the Therapeutic Goods Amendment (Therapeutic Goods Advertising Code) Instrument (No. 2) 2021, which includes references to the COVID-19 vaccine.
Aged Care Legislation Amendment (Care Recipients and Service Staff Vaccination Recording and Reporting) Principles 2021 [F2021L00981]	12/07/2021	This instrument establishes obligations on approved providers of home care services to keep records and report to the Department of Health workers' COVID-19 vaccination status and approved providers of residential aged care to keep reports and report to the Department on residents' vaccination status.

16-22 July 2021

Bill/ Instrument	Date registered/ introduced	Description
Health Insurance Legislation Amendment (Section 3C General Medical Services – Phone Consultation for COVID-19 Hotspots) Determination 2021 [F2021L00994]	16/07/2021	This instrument lists two new items to enable patients affected by coronavirus to receive a Medicare benefit for longer phone attendances performed by a GP or another medical practitioner working in general practice.
Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Amendment (Prime Minister and Cabinet Measures No. 4) Regulations 2021 [F2021L00993]	16/07/2021	This instrument establishes legislative authority for government spending on the provision of financial assistance to individuals residing in a location that is subject to a hotspot public health order.
Child Care Subsidy Amendment (Coronavirus Response Measures—New South	18/07/2021	This instrument introduces measures to support approved child care providers and families in New South Wales subject to "stay at home" restrictions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These measures

Wales) Minister's Rules 2021 [F2021L00995]		include allowing approved providers to waive their fees for child care services during the period the "stay at home" restrictions apply.
Income Tax Assessment (Eligible State and Territory COVID-19 Economic Recovery Grant Programs) Amendment Declaration (No. 1) 2021 [F2021L01002]	20/07/2021	This instrument declares seven specifies COVID-19 related state and territory grant programs, as eligible grant programs allowing grants paid to them to be treated as non-assessable non-exempt income under the income tax law.
Health Insurance Legislation Amendment (Section 3C General Medical Services – Usual Medical Practitioner Exemption) Determination 2021 [F2021L01007]	21/07/2021	This instrument removes the requirement for patients to have an existing relationship with their medical practitioner to access a general practice telehealth or phone item related to mental health support services.

23–29 July 2021

Bill/ Instrument	**Date registered/ introduced**	**Description**
Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Amendment (Prime Minister and Cabinet Measures No. 5) Regulations 2021 [F2021L01013]	23/07/2021	This instrument amends the legislative authority for government spending on the COVID-19 Disaster Payment (including by removing references to the duration of a state or territory public health order restricting the movement of persons and removing references to declarations about the amount of liquid assets).
Information Amendment (Vaccination Reporting) Principles 2021 [F2021L01023]	26/07/2021	This instrument authorises the Secretary to publish vaccination information received from approved providers under the Accountability Principles 2014, relating to numbers of service staff and care recipients who have received certain vaccinations.
Therapeutic Goods Amendment (Therapeutic Goods Advertising Code) Instrument (No. 3) 2021 [F2021L01034]	27/07/2021	This instrument makes amendments to ensure that the Advertising Code does not apply to advertisements made in accordance with a current COVID-19 vaccine permission instrument (so that specified advertisements in support of the National COVID-19 Vaccination Program containing certain representations will be lawful under the Code).
Therapeutic Goods Legislation Amendment (2021 Measures No. 2)	27/07/2021	This instrument removes an unintended barrier to accessing the provisional registration pathway for new COVID-19 vaccines and treatments in Australia

Regulations 2021 [F2021L01032]		(so that new COVID-19 vaccines and treatments can access provisional registration without needing to demonstrate that they represent a significant improvement in efficacy or safety compared to other COVID-19 vaccines or treatments that are fully registered in the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods).
Migration Amendment (Temporary Sponsored Parent Visas) Regulations 2021 [F2021L01029]	27/07/2021	This instrument extends for an additional 18 months, Subclass 870 (Sponsored Parent (Temporary)) visas held by persons who were outside Australia on 1 July 2021, in order to assist persons who may have had difficulty using the visa to travel to Australia due to COVID-19 related travel restrictions.
Taxation Administration – Single Touch Payroll – 2019-20 and 2020-21 Income Years Closely Held Payees Exemption 2021 [F2021L01037]	28/07/2021	This instrument provides an exemption for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 financial years from mandatory reporting through Single Touch Payroll to employers that make payments to closely held payees.
Social Security (Asset-test Exempt Income Stream (Market-linked) – Payment Factors) Amendment (Minimum Amount) Principles 2021 [F2021L01036]	28/07/2021	This instrument extends by a further year the halving of the minimum draw-down rate to allow the income stream to remain asset-test exempt, due to the continuing economic impact of COVID-19.
Commonwealth Grant Scheme Guidelines Amendment (National Priorities and Other Matters) 2021 [F2021L01039]	29/07/2021	This instrument lists additional higher education providers that can be paid grants under the Higher Education Support Act 2003, and update the national priorities specified in the Guidelines. The explanatory materials state that this is intended to support the education sector impacted by the loss of international students.

30-31 July 2021

Bill/ Instrument	**Date registered/ introduced**	**Description**
Health Insurance (Accredited Pathology Laboratories – Approval) Amendment (Relevant Standards) Principles 2021 [F2021L01053]	30/07/2021	This instrument amends the Health Insurance (Accredited Pathology Laboratories-Approval) Principles 2017 to reflect four new and/ or revised pathology accreditation standards and other amendments to support the implementation of the Requirements for Supervision in the Clinical Governance of Medical Pathology Laboratories (Sixth

		Edition 2021), including to address the retention of negative COVID specimens.
Therapeutic Goods (Excluded Goods) Amendment (Borderline Products—COVID-19) Determination 2021 [F2021L01049]	30/07/2021	This instrument determines specified borderline products to be excluded goods for the purposes of the Therapeutic Goods Act 1989. The effect of this amendment is that articles such as bedsheets, clothes and towels that make COVID-19 claims will be regulated as medical devices.
Therapeutic Goods (Medical Devices—Specified Articles) Amendment (Borderline Products—COVID-19) Instrument 2021 [F2021L01048]	30/07/2021	This instrument specifies a particular class of articles, represented expressly to be effective against the virus that causes COVID-19, to be medical devices under subsection 41BD(2B) of the Therapeutic Goods Act 1989.
Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Amendment (Prime Minister and Cabinet Measures No. 7) Regulations 2021 [F2021L01047]	30/07/2021	This instrument establishes legislative authority for government spending on COVID-19 disaster payments, administered by the National Recovery and Resilience Agency.
CASA EX92/21 — Flight Reviews, Proficiency Checks and Related Matters (Extensions of Time Due to COVID-19) Exemptions Instrument 2021 [F2021L01045]	30/07/2021	This instrument uses a series of exemptions from certain provisions of Civil Aviation Regulations to extend the time-limits for compliance with pilot proficiency check and flight review obligations.