

The Council of Elders welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Aged Care and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 and the Aged Care (Accommodation Payment Security) Levy Amendment Bill 2025.

Council members have reviewed the proposed amendments and support the intent of the legislation, which primarily seeks to make technical and clarifying changes to enable the effective implementation of the Aged Care Act 2024. Members noted the amendments do not alter the policy intent of the Act but rather align language, definitions and references across related legislation. Importantly, the changes are seen as maintaining safeguards for older people and ensuring consistency with human rights obligations, without introducing financial or regulatory burden. The Council acknowledges the contribution of stakeholders in shaping the reform pathway and recognises the amendments reflect feedback provided through earlier consultation processes.

Members also noted that while the amendments are largely administrative in nature, they are essential to support clarity and coherence in the legislative framework. The Council supports the passage of these Bills and encourages their introduction without delay to avoid disruption to reform implementation. The Council remains committed to monitoring the implementation of the new Act and ensuring that aged care providers uphold their obligations to deliver safe, high-quality, person- centred care.

Should the Committee require further clarification, the Council would be pleased to provide further advice.

Anne Burgess AM  
Chair  
Council of Elders

7 August 2025