

Social Security Amendment (Caring for People on Newstart) Bill 2014

Sponsor: Senator Siewert

Introduced: Senate, 6 March 2014

1.112 This bill proposes to provide additional financial assistance to Newstart and Youth Allowance recipients by:

- increasing the single rates of Newstart by \$50 a week;
- increasing the single independent rates of Youth Allowance by \$50 a week; and
- providing the same indexation arrangement for certain pensions and allowances, being the higher of the Consumer Price Index (CPI), Male Total Average Weekly Earnings (MTAWE) or pensioner and beneficiary living cost index amount.¹⁸

1.113 The bill is accompanied by a statement of compatibility that states that it promotes the right to social security¹⁹ by increasing the amount of financial support for certain recipients of Newstart and Youth Allowance.²⁰

1.114 The committee considers that the bill does not appear to give rise to human rights concerns.

18 Explanatory memorandum, p 1.

19 Article 9 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR).

20 Statement of compatibility, p 1.