

Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment (Seniors Health Card and Other Measures) Bill 2014

Portfolio: Social Services

Introduced: House of Representatives, 27 March 2014

1.132 The Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment (Seniors Health Card and Other Measures) Bill 2014 (the bill) seeks to:

- amend the *Social Security Act 1991* and *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* to annually index income thresholds for the Commonwealth seniors' health card;
- amend the *Student Assistance Act 1973* to align provisions in relation to the operation of the Social Security Appeals Tribunal (SSAT) with similar provisions in social security and related laws;
- amend the *A New Tax System (Family Assistance) (Administration) Act 1999*, the *Social Security (Administration) Act 1999* and the *Student Assistance Act 1973* to ensure that a statement of reasons for an SSAT decision is provided to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal if there is to be a review of the decision; and
- amend a number of Acts to reflect machinery of government changes and make technical amendments to the *Social Security Act 1991*, including a restructure of the Part of that Act that deals with definitions.

1.133 The bill is accompanied by a statement of compatibility which states that the bill promotes the right to social security and the right to health.¹

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

1 Explanatory memorandum (EM), p. 2.