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No. 118 2001–02

Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment
Bill (No. 1) 2002

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Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002

Peter Yeend
Social Policy Group
10 April 2002

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Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002

Date Introduced: 21 March 2002

House: House of Representatives

Portfolio: Veterans' Affairs

Commencement: Various commencement dates apply to various schedules and items within schedules in the Bill. The Table in Section 2 of the Bill (pages 1 to 8 of the Bill) sets out the many and various commencement dates.

Purpose

To make minor legislative house keeping amendments to the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (VEA) and related Acts necessary to ensure consistency of treatment between Acts and to ensure the VEA is kept up-to-date with amendments made to related Acts.

Background

As outlined in the Second Reading Speech when this Bill was presented to the House of Representatives on 21 March 2002, this Bill is a package of minor, technical and consequential amendments to the VEA and related Acts.¹ The Bill is almost entirely made up of a miscellany of legislative housekeeping and this is manifest in the many and varied commencement dates for various schedules and sections of the Bill, as set out in the Table in section 2 of the Bill – pages 1 to 8.

Costs or Savings and Numbers Affected

The Explanatory Memorandum attached to the Bill details for all schedules in this Bill that there are no financial impacts. This indicates the numbers affected, beneficially or adversely is probably nil or very small.

Warning:

This Digest was prepared for debate. It reflects the legislation as introduced and does not canvass subsequent amendments.

This Digest does not have any official legal status. Other sources should be consulted to determine the subsequent official status of the Bill.

Main Provisions

Schedule 1 proposes minor amendments to the *Social Security Act 1991* (SSA) arising from the introduction of Income Support Supplement payable under the VEA from 1994.

Schedule 2 proposes minor amendments to the *Social Security (Administration) Act 1999* arising from the introduction of Income Support Supplement payable under the VEA from 1994.

Schedules 3, 4 and 5 make minor amendments to other related Acts arising from previous attempted amendments not being affected as they were incorrectly worded or misdescribed.

Schedule 6 makes minor housekeeping amendments to the VEA.

Schedule 7 makes minor amendments to the VEA arising from previous attempted amendments not being affected as they were incorrectly worded or misdescribed.

Concluding Comments

The minor amendments and legislative housekeeping measures contained in this Bill have probably been on the “*nice to do when able to fit in with the parliamentary legislative program*” list for quite some time. This is reflected in that some amendments refer to the introduction of Income Support Supplement in 1994.

The amendments proposed in this Bill are minor legislative housekeeping only.

Endnotes

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- 1 Ms Dana Vale MP, Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002, Second Reading Speech, House of Representatives, *Debates*, 21 March 2002, p. 1963.

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