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## Migration (Visa Application) Charge Amendment Bill 2002

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Migration (Visa Application) Charge Amendment Bill 2002

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# Migration (Visa Application) Charge Amendment Bill 2002

**Date Introduced:** 5 December 2002

**House:** House of Representatives

**Portfolio:** Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs

**Commencement:** Royal Assent

## Purpose

To

- amend the *Migration (Visa Application) Charge Act 1997* to increase the visa application charge limit from \$12,500 to \$26,745; and
- introduce a mechanism for indexing the new visa application charge limit.

## Background

Detailed background behind the visa application charge (VAC) regime is given in Migration Legislation Amendment (Contributory Parents Migration Scheme) Bill 2002, Bills Digest No. 98, 2002–03. The increase in the VAC limit is necessary in order to give effect to the increased obligations proposed in that Bill relating to indemnification of health costs.

## Main Provisions

**Schedule 1** creates a new limit for visa applications made after 1 July 2002. These applications have a charge limit of \$26,745 in the 2002/03 financial year. **Schedule 1** indexes this figure to a new Contributory Parent Visa Composite Index based mainly on the percentage annual increase in ‘Commonwealth Health Expenditure’, rather than changes in the consumer price index (CPI).<sup>1</sup>

## Endnotes

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1 Explanatory Memorandum, p. 4.

### **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.*