



Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Amendment (Welfare to Work and Other Measures) (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2006

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Date introduced: 29 March 2006

House: House of Representatives

Portfolio: Employment and Workplace Relations

Commencement: The various provisions in the Bill commence at different times as set out in the table under clause 2 of the Bill.

Purpose

The Bill makes amendments of a technical or minor nature that are necessary as a consequence of the passage through Parliament of the *Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Amendment (Welfare to Work and Other Measures) Act 2005*. These amendments include, terminology changes and changes to ensure consistent treatment of similar groups of income support recipients (for example principal carers).

Background

For background to this Bill see the Bills Digest for the Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Amendment (Welfare to Work and Other Measures) Bill 2005. It is available at: <http://www.aph.gov.au/Library/pubs/bd/2005-06/06bd070.pdf>

Financial implications

The Bill is expected to result in \$4.8 million of increased costs over four years.

Main provisions

Item 9 of Schedule 2 extends eligibility for Pharmaceutical Allowance to partnered parenting payment recipients who have been granted a temporary incapacity exemption from participation requirements.

Item 2 of Schedule 3 and Schedule 5 provide an exemption from the newly arrived resident waiting period for principal carers who are eligible for Youth Allowance and

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Newstart Allowance recipients provided they have become single since starting their current period of Australian residence.

Item 5 of Schedule 3 provides for a seasonal workers preclusion period for students and new apprentices claiming Youth Allowance.

Item 10 of Schedule 3, Item 4 of Schedule 5, Item 3 of Schedule 10, Item 4 of Schedule 11 and Items 3 and 6 of Schedule 12 provide for the continued payment of the higher rate of Youth or Newstart Allowance and the continued payment of Pensioner Education Supplement, Telephone Allowance, and other concessions to principal carers after the death of a child where that death would otherwise reduce or end their payment. The continued eligibility will be for 14 weeks.

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