

1980

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AGED OR DISABLED PERSONS HOMES AMENDMENT BILL ~~1980~~

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by authority of the Minister representing
the Minister for Social Security,
the Hon. Ralph J. Hunt, M.P.)

General Outline

The purpose of this Bill is to increase the amount of personal care subsidy payable to approved organisations which provide accommodation for aged or disabled persons. The subsidy is designed to help meet the cost of employing staff to provide additional services for frail persons.

The subsidy is payable in respect of periods of 28 days. The amount of the subsidy is to be increased to \$80 (from \$60) in respect of each such period. The new amount payable will apply in respect of subsidies falling due on and after 28 October 1980.

More detailed explanations of the clauses of the Bill are contained in the following notes.

AGED OR DISABLED PERSONS HOMES AMENDMENT BILL 1980

Clause 1: Short Title

By this clause the amending Act is to be cited as the Aged or Disabled Persons Homes Amendment Act 1980 and the Aged or Disabled Persons Homes Act 1954, as previously amended, as the "Principal Act".

Clause 2: Commencement

By reason of sub-section 5(1A) of the Acts Interpretation Act 1901 an amending Act comes into operation on the twenty-eighth day after the date of Royal Assent, unless contrary provision is made. Sub-clause 1 proposes that sections 1, 2 and 4 of the amending Act will come into operation on the date of Royal Assent.

By sub-clause 2, it is proposed that section 3 of the amending Act (increase in the rate of subsidy) will be deemed to have come into operation on 30 September 1980.

Clause 3: Authorization of Payments

Sub-section 10C(1) of the Principal Act prescribes the amount of subsidy that the Director-General of Social Services may authorize to be paid to an approved organisation which provides accommodation to persons who have either attained the age of 80 years or who are receiving approved personal care services. Subsidy is payable to an approved organisation in respect of each person who, on a prescribed date, is qualified under sub-section 10C(1). A prescribed date is a date determined by the Director-General for each organisation, and every twenty-eighth day thereafter. As a matter of practice, the Director-General has determined a uniform prescribed date for all approved organisations.

Sub-clause (1) will increase from \$60 to \$80 the amount that the Director-General may authorise to be paid to an approved organisation in respect of each qualified person.

By sub-clause 2, the increased amount of subsidy will first be payable in respect of each person who was qualified under sub-section 10C(1) on 28 October 1980, which was the first prescribed date after the date proposed for the commencement of section 3 of the amending Act.

Clause 4: Formal Amendments

This clause proposes a number of formal amendments to the Principal Act which are set out in the Schedule to the amending Bill.