



Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment (Strengthening the Safety Net) Act 2023

No. 52, 2023

**An Act to amend the law relating to social security,
family assistance and veterans' entitlements, and
for related purposes**

Note: An electronic version of this Act is available on the Federal Register of Legislation
(<https://www.legislation.gov.au/>)

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No. 52, 2023

**An Act to amend the law relating to social security,
family assistance and veterans' entitlements, and
for related purposes**

[Assented to 10 August 2023]

The Parliament of Australia enacts:

*No. 52, 2023 Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment (Strengthening the
Safety Net) Act 2023 1*

1 Short title

This Act is the *Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment (Strengthening the Safety Net) Act 2023*.

2 Commencement

- (1) Each provision of this Act specified in column 1 of the table commences, or is taken to have commenced, in accordance with column 2 of the table. Any other statement in column 2 has effect according to its terms.

Commencement information		
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Provisions	Commencement	Date/Details
1. The whole of this Act	The day this Act receives the Royal Assent.	10 August 2023

Note: This table relates only to the provisions of this Act as originally enacted. It will not be amended to deal with any later amendments of this Act.

- (2) Any information in column 3 of the table is not part of this Act. Information may be inserted in this column, or information in it may be edited, in any published version of this Act.

3 Schedules

Legislation that is specified in a Schedule to this Act is amended or repealed as set out in the applicable items in the Schedule concerned, and any other item in a Schedule to this Act has effect according to its terms.

Schedule 1—Additional support for single parents

Social Security Act 1991

1 Paragraph 500D(2)(c)

Omit “8”, substitute “14”.

2 Subparagraph 1061PJ(2A)(b)(iii)

Omit “8”, substitute “14”.

3 Paragraph 1061ZDA(1)(b)

Omit “8”, substitute “14”.

4 Application of amendments

- (1) The amendment of paragraph 500D(2)(c) of the *Social Security Act 1991* made by this Schedule applies in relation to working out whether a person is qualified for parenting payment for days occurring on or after 20 September 2023.
- (2) The amendment of subparagraph 1061PJ(2A)(b)(iii) of the *Social Security Act 1991* made by this Schedule applies in relation to working out whether a person is qualified for a pensioner education supplement for days occurring on or after 20 September 2023.
- (3) The amendment of paragraph 1061ZDA(1)(b) of the *Social Security Act 1991* made by this Schedule applies in relation to working out whether a person is qualified for a pensioner concession card for days occurring on or after 20 September 2023.

Schedule 2—Increase to working age payments

Part 1—Main amendments

Division 1—Disability support pension (under 21)

Social Security Act 1991

1 Point 1066A-B1 (table B)

Repeal the table (not including the notes), substitute:

Column 1 Item	Column 2 Person's family situation	Column 3 Rate per year	Column 4 Rate per fortnight
1	Not a member of a couple and person: (a) is under 18 years of age; and (b) is not independent; and (c) is not living away from the person's parental home because of a medical condition of the person	\$9,695.40	\$372.90
2	Not a member of a couple and person: (a) is under 18 years of age; and (b) either: (i) is independent; or (ii) is living away from the	\$15,672.80	\$602.80

Table B—Maximum basic rates

Column 1 Item	Column 2 Person's family situation	Column 3 Rate per year	Column 4 Rate per fortnight
	person's parental home because of a medical condition of the person		
3	Not a member of a couple and person: (a) has reached 18 years of age; and (b) is living at home of parent or parents; and (c) is not independent	\$11,164.40	\$429.40
4	Not a member of a couple and person: (a) has reached 18 years of age; and (b) either: (i) is not living at a home of parent or parents; or (ii) is living at a home of parent or parents, but is independent	\$15,672.80	\$602.80
5	Partnered	\$15,672.80	\$602.80
6	Member of illness separated couple, member of respite care couple or	\$15,672.80	\$602.80

Schedule 2 Increase to working age payments

Part 1 Main amendments

Table B—Maximum basic rates

Column 1 Item	Column 2 Person’s family situation	Column 3 Rate per year	Column 4 Rate per fortnight
	partnered (partner in gaol)		

2 Point 1066B-B1 (table B)

Repeal the table (not including the notes), substitute:

Table B—Maximum basic rates

Column 1 Item	Column 2 Person’s family situation	Column 3 Rate per year	Column 4 Rate per fortnight
1	Not a member of a couple and person: (a) is under 18 years of age; and (b) is not independent; and (c) is not living away from the person’s parental home because of a medical condition of the person	\$9,695.40	\$372.90
2	Not a member of a couple and person: (a) is under 18 years of age; and (b) either: (i) is independent; or (ii) is living away from the person’s parental home	\$15,672.80	\$602.80

Table B—Maximum basic rates

Column 1 Item	Column 2 Person’s family situation	Column 3 Rate per year	Column 4 Rate per fortnight
	because of a medical condition of the person		
3	Not a member of a couple and person: (a) has reached 18 years of age; and (b) is living at home of parent or parents; and (c) is not independent	\$11,164.40	\$429.40
4	Not a member of a couple and person: (a) has reached 18 years of age; and (b) either: (i) is not living at a home of parent or parents; or (ii) is living at a home of parent or parents, but is independent	\$15,672.80	\$602.80
5	Partnered	\$15,672.80	\$602.80
6	Member of illness separated couple, member of respite care couple or partnered (partner in gaol)	\$15,672.80	\$602.80

Division 2—Youth allowance

Social Security Act 1991

3 Point 1067G-B2 (table BA)

Repeal the table (not including the note), substitute:

Table BA—Maximum basic rates (people who are not independent)		
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Item	Person's situation	Rate
1	Lives at home and not yet 18 years old	\$372.90
2	Lives at home and at least 18 years old	\$429.40
3	Required to live away from home	\$602.80

4 Point 1067G-B3 (table BB)

Repeal the table (not including the note), substitute:

Table BB—Maximum basic rates (people who are independent)		
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Item	Person's situation	Rate
1	Accommodated independent person and not yet 18 years old	\$372.90
2	Accommodated independent person and at least 18 years old	\$429.40
3	In supported State care and not yet 18 years old	\$372.90
4	In supported State care and at least 18 years old	\$429.40
5	In unsupported State care	\$602.80
6	Not a member of a couple and has a dependent child	\$760.40
7	Member of a couple and has a dependent child	\$652.60

Table BB—Maximum basic rates (people who are independent)		
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Item	Person’s situation	Rate
8	Not an accommodated independent person, not in supported State care, not in unsupported State care and does not have a dependent child	\$602.80

5 Point 1067G-B4 (table BC)

Repeal the table (not including the note), substitute:

Table BC—Maximum basic rates (long term income support students)		
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Item	Person’s situation	Rate
1	Not independent, lives at home and not a member of a couple	\$505.20
2	Not independent, required to live away from home and not a member of a couple	\$711.90
3	Accommodated independent person and not a member of a couple	\$505.20
4	Independent, not an accommodated independent person and not a member of a couple	\$711.90
5	Member of a couple	\$652.60

Division 3—Austudy payment

Social Security Act 1991

6 Subpoint 1067L-B2(1) (table BA)

Repeal the table (not including the note), substitute:

Schedule 2 Increase to working age payments
Part 1 Main amendments

Table BA—Maximum basic rates (persons who are not long term income support students)

Column 1 Item	Column 2 Person's situation	Column 3 Rate
1	Does not have a dependent child or a YA child	\$602.80
2	Is a member of a couple and has a dependent child	\$652.60
3	Is not a member of a couple and has a dependent child or YA child	\$760.40

7 Point 1067L-B3 (table BB)

Repeal the table, substitute:

Table BB—Maximum basic rates (persons who are long term income support students)

Column 1 Item	Column 2 Person's situation	Column 3 Rate
1	Is a member of a couple	\$652.60
2	Is not a member of a couple	\$711.90

Division 4—Jobseeker payment

Social Security Act 1991

8 Point 1068-B1 (table B)

Repeal the table (not including the notes), substitute:

Table B—Maximum basic rates			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	
Item	Person’s family situation	Rate	
		Column 3A	Column 3B
		Person with dependent child	Person without dependent child
4A	Not member of couple and person: (a) receives jobseeker payment; and (b) has not turned 55	\$785.20	\$733.10
4B	Not member of couple and person: (a) receives jobseeker payment; and (b) has turned 55; and (c) has not been receiving one, or a combination, of social security pension or social security benefit or service pension, income support supplement or veteran payment for a continuous period of at least 9 months	\$785.20	\$733.10

Schedule 2 Increase to working age payments
Part 1 Main amendments

Table B—Maximum basic rates			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	
		Rate	
Item	Person’s family situation	Column 3A	Column 3B
		Person with dependent child	Person without dependent child
5	Not member of couple and person: (a) has turned 55; and (b) has been receiving one, or a combination, of social security pension or social security benefit or service pension or income support supplement for a continuous period of at least 9 months	\$785.20	\$785.20
7	Partnered	\$671.20	\$671.20
9	Member of illness separated couple	\$785.20	\$785.20
11	Partnered (partner in gaol)	\$785.20	\$785.20

Division 5—Parenting payment (partnered)

Social Security Act 1991

9 Point 1068B-C2 (table C)

Repeal the table (not including the notes), substitute:

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Item	Person’s family situation	Rate
1	Person not covered by item 2, 3 or 4	\$671.20
2	Member of illness separated couple	\$785.20
3	Member of respite care couple	\$785.20
4	Partnered (partner in gaol)	\$785.20

Division 6—Application of amendments

10 Application of amendments

- (1) The amendments of the *Social Security Act 1991* made by this Part apply in relation to working out the following:
- (a) the rate of a person’s disability support pension, youth allowance, austudy payment, jobseeker payment or benefit PP (partnered) for days occurring on or after 20 September 2023;
 - (b) the rate of a person’s farm household allowance under the *Farm Household Support Act 2014* for days occurring on or after 20 September 2023.
- (2) For the purposes of indexing an amount:
- (a) specified in a table of the *Social Security Act 1991* as substituted by an item of this Part; and
 - (b) on the first indexation day for the amount that occurs after the day this item commences;
- the current figure for the amount immediately before that first indexation day is taken to be that specified amount.

Part 2—Other amendments

Social Security Act 1991

11 Paragraphs 1061Q(2B)(d), (3)(c), (3A)(c), (3F)(c) and (3G)(c)

Omit “60”, substitute “55”.

12 Paragraph 1061ZA(2)(a)

Omit “60”, substitute “55”.

13 Paragraph 1067L-C1(b)

Omit “60”, substitute “55”.

14 Point 1068-D3 (heading)

Omit “60”, substitute “55”.

15 Paragraph 1068-D3(a)

Omit “60”, substitute “55”.

16 Subparagraph 1068B-E1(d)(i)

Omit “60”, substitute “55”.

17 Section 1190 (table item 2, column 4)

Omit “items 4A, 4B, 5, 7 and 9”, substitute “all amounts”.

18 Application of amendments

- (1) The amendments of section 1061Q of the *Social Security Act 1991* made by this Part apply in relation to each telephone allowance payday for a person, that occurs on or after 20 September 2023, on which telephone allowance is payable to the person.
- (2) The amendment of paragraph 1061ZA(2)(a) of the *Social Security Act 1991* made by this Part applies in relation to working out whether a person is qualified for a pensioner concession card for days occurring on or after 20 September 2023.

- (3) The amendment of paragraph 1067L-C1(b) of the *Social Security Act 1991* made by this Part applies in relation to working out the rate of a person's austudy payment for days occurring on or after 20 September 2023.
- (4) The amendment of paragraph 1068-D3(a) of the *Social Security Act 1991* made by this Part applies in relation to working out the rate of a person's jobseeker payment for days occurring on or after 20 September 2023.
- (5) The amendment of subparagraph 1068B-E1(1)(d)(i) of the *Social Security Act 1991* made by this Part applies in relation to working out the rate of a person's benefit PP (partnered) for days occurring on or after 20 September 2023.
- (6) The amendment of section 1190 of the *Social Security Act 1991* made by this Part applies in relation to indexing an amount on each indexation day for the amount that occurs after the day this item commences.

Schedule 3—Increased support for Commonwealth rent assistance recipients

A New Tax System (Family Assistance) Act 1999

1 Subparagraph 38C(1)(f)(i) of Schedule 1

Omit “\$3,073.30”, substitute “\$4,807.05”.

2 Subparagraph 38C(1)(f)(ii) of Schedule 1

Omit “\$4,547.90”, substitute “\$7,102.90”.

3 Subparagraphs 38C(1)(f)(iii) and (iv) of Schedule 1

Omit “\$3,073.30”, substitute “\$4,807.05”.

4 Subparagraph 38C(1)(fa)(i) of Schedule 1

Omit “\$2,332.35”, substitute “\$3,657.30”.

5 Subparagraph 38C(1)(fa)(ii) of Schedule 1

Omit “\$3,806.95”, substitute “\$5,945.85”.

6 Subparagraphs 38C(1)(fa)(iii) and (iv) of Schedule 1

Omit “\$2,332.35”, substitute “\$3,657.30”.

7 Clause 38D of Schedule 1 (table)

Repeal the table, substitute:

Rent assistance payable to individual who has at least one FTB child and who is not a relevant shared carer

(Part A—Method 1)

Column 1 Family situation	Column 2 Rate A	Column 3 Rate B	
		Column 3A	Column 3B
		1 or 2 rent assistance children	3 or more rent assistance children
1 Not member of a couple	$\left(\frac{\text{Annual rent} - \$4,807.05}{4} \right) \times 3$	\$5,544.35	\$6,259.75
2 Member of a couple other than a person who is partnered (partner in gaol) or a member of an illness separated couple, a respite care couple or a temporarily separated couple	$\left(\frac{\text{Annual rent} - \$7,102.90}{4} \right) \times 3$	\$5,544.35	\$6,259.75
3 Person who is partnered (partner in gaol) or a member of an illness separated couple or a respite care couple	$\left(\frac{\text{Annual rent} - \$4,807.05}{4} \right) \times 3$	\$5,544.35	\$6,259.75

Schedule 3 Increased support for Commonwealth rent assistance recipients

Rent assistance payable to individual who has at least one FTB child and who is not a relevant shared carer

(Part A—Method 1)

Column 1 Family situation	Column 2 Rate A	Column 3 Rate B
		Column 3A 1 or 2 rent assistance children
		Column 3B 3 or more rent assistance children
4 Member of a temporarily separated couple	$\left(\frac{\text{Annual rent} - \$4,807.05}{4} \right) \times 3$	\$5,544.35 \$6,259.75

8 Clause 38E of Schedule 1 (table)

Repeal the table, substitute:

Rent assistance payable to individual who is a relevant shared carer or who has only one or more regular care children

(Part A—Method 1 or 3)

Column 1 Family situation	Column 2 Rate A	Column 3 Rate B
1 Not member of a couple	$\left(\frac{\text{Annual rent} - \$3,657.30}{4} \right) \times 3$	\$4,745.00
2 Member of a couple other than a person who is partnered (partner in gaol) or a member of an illness separated couple, a respite care couple or a temporarily separated	$\left(\frac{\text{Annual rent} - \$5,945.85}{4} \right) \times 3$	\$4,456.65

Rent assistance payable to individual who is a relevant shared carer or who has only one or more regular care children**(Part A—Method 1 or 3)**

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Family situation	Rate A	Rate B
couple		
3 Person who is partnered (partner in gaol) or a member of an illness separated couple or a respite care couple	$\left(\frac{\text{Annual rent} - \$3,657.30}{4} \right) \times 3$	\$4,745.00
4 Member of a temporarily separated couple	$\left(\frac{\text{Annual rent} - \$3,657.30}{4} \right) \times 3$	\$4,456.65

Social Security Act 1991**9 Subsection 1070L(2) (table)**

Repeal the table, substitute:

Rate of rent assistance			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Item	Person's family situation	Rate A	Rate B
1	Not a member of a couple	$3 \times \left(\frac{\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40}{4} \right)$	\$180.80
2	Partnered and partner does not have rent increased pension	$3 \times \left(\frac{\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$227.40}{4} \right)$	\$170.20

Schedule 3 Increased support for Commonwealth rent assistance recipients

Rate of rent assistance			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Item	Person's family situation	Rate A	Rate B
3	Partnered and partner: (a) is receiving a social security pension; and (b) has rent increased pension	$3 \times \frac{(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$227.40)}{8}$	Half the rate specified in column 4 of item 2
4	Partnered and partner: (a) is receiving a service pension, income support supplement or a veteran payment; and (b) has rent increased pension; and (c) does not have a dependent child or dependent children	$3 \times \frac{(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$227.40)}{8}$	Half the rate specified in column 4 of item 2

Rate of rent assistance			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Item	Person's family situation	Rate A	Rate B
5	Partnered and partner: (a) is receiving a service pension, income support supplement or a veteran payment; and (b) has rent increased pension; and (c) has 1 or 2 dependent children	$3 \times \frac{(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$273.00)}{8}$	\$106.80
6	Partnered and partner: (a) is receiving a service pension, income support supplement or a veteran payment; and (b) has rent increased pension; and (c) has 3 or more dependent children	$3 \times \frac{(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$273.00)}{8}$	\$120.00
7	Partnered—member of an illness separated couple	$3 \times \frac{(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40)}{4}$	\$180.80

Schedule 3 Increased support for Commonwealth rent assistance recipients

Rate of rent assistance			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Item	Person's family situation	Rate A	Rate B
8	Partnered— member of a respite care couple	$3 \times \frac{\left(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40 \right)}{4}$	\$180.80
9	Partnered— member of a temporarily separated couple	$3 \times \frac{\left(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40 \right)}{4}$	\$170.20
10	Partnered (partner in gaol)	$3 \times \frac{\left(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40 \right)}{4}$	\$180.80

10 Subsection 1070M(2) (table)

Repeal the table, substitute:

Rate of rent assistance		
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Item	Rate A	Rate B
1	$3 \times \frac{\left(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40 \right)}{4}$	\$180.80

11 Subsection 1070N(2) (table)

Repeal the table, substitute:

Rate of rent assistance			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Item	Person's family situation	Rate A	Rate B
1	Not a member of a couple and: (a) in disability accommodation; or (b) independent	$3 \times \frac{(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40)}{4}$	\$180.80
2	Partnered and partner does not have rent increased pension	$3 \times \frac{(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$227.40)}{4}$	\$170.20
3	Partnered and partner: (a) is receiving a social security pension; and (b) has rent increased pension	$3 \times \frac{(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$227.40)}{8}$	Half the rate specified in column 4 of item 2
4	Partnered and partner: (a) is receiving a service pension, income support supplement or a veteran payment; and (b) has rent increased pension; and (c) does not have a dependent child or dependent children	$3 \times \frac{(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$227.40)}{8}$	Half the rate specified in column 4 of item 2

Schedule 3 Increased support for Commonwealth rent assistance recipients

Rate of rent assistance			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Item	Person's family situation	Rate A	Rate B
5	Partnered and partner: (a) is receiving a service pension, income support supplement or a veteran payment; and (b) has rent increased pension; and (c) has 1 or 2 dependent children	$3 \times \frac{(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$273.00)}{8}$	\$106.80
6	Partnered and partner: (a) is receiving a service pension, income support supplement or a veteran payment; and (b) has rent increased pension; and (c) has 3 or more dependent children	$3 \times \frac{(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$273.00)}{8}$	\$120.00
7	Partnered—member of an illness separated couple	$3 \times \frac{(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40)}{4}$	\$180.80

Rate of rent assistance			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Item	Person's family situation	Rate A	Rate B
8	Partnered— member of a respite care couple	$3 \times \frac{\left(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40 \right)}{4}$	\$180.80
9	Partnered— member of a temporarily separated couple	$3 \times \frac{\left(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40 \right)}{4}$	\$170.20
10	Partnered (partner in gaol)	$3 \times \frac{\left(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40 \right)}{4}$	\$180.80

12 Subsection 1070P(2) (table)

Repeal the table, substitute:

Rate of rent assistance			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Item	Person's family situation	Rate A	Rate B
1	Not a member of a couple and: (a) in disability accommodation; or (b) living away from the person's parental home permanently or indefinitely	$3 \times \frac{\left(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40 \right)}{4}$	\$180.80

Schedule 3 Increased support for Commonwealth rent assistance recipients

Rate of rent assistance			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Item	Person's family situation	Rate A	Rate B
2	Partnered and partner does not have rent increased pension	$3 \times \frac{\left(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$227.40 \right)}{4}$	\$170.20
3	Partnered and partner: (a) is receiving a social security pension; and (b) has rent increased pension	$3 \times \frac{\left(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$227.40 \right)}{8}$	Half the rate specified in column 4 of item 2
4	Partnered and partner: (a) is receiving a service pension, income support supplement or a veteran payment; and (b) has rent increased pension; and (c) does not have a dependent child or dependent children	$3 \times \frac{\left(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$227.40 \right)}{8}$	Half the rate specified in column 4 of item 2

Rate of rent assistance			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Item	Person's family situation	Rate A	Rate B
5	Partnered and partner: (a) is receiving a service pension, income support supplement or a veteran payment; and (b) has rent increased pension; and (c) has 1 or 2 dependent children	$3 \times \frac{(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$273.00)}{8}$	\$106.80
6	Partnered and partner: (a) is receiving a service pension, income support supplement or a veteran payment; and (b) has rent increased pension; and (c) has 3 or more dependent children	$3 \times \frac{(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$273.00)}{8}$	\$120.00
7	Partnered—member of an illness separated couple	$3 \times \frac{(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40)}{4}$	\$180.80

Schedule 3 Increased support for Commonwealth rent assistance recipients

Rate of rent assistance			
Column 1 Item	Column 2 Person's family situation	Column 3 Rate A	Column 4 Rate B
8	Partnered— member of a respite care couple	$3 \times \frac{\left(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40 \right)}{4}$	\$180.80
9	Partnered— member of a temporarily separated couple	$3 \times \frac{\left(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40 \right)}{4}$	\$170.20
10	Partnered (partner in gaol)	$3 \times \frac{\left(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40 \right)}{4}$	\$180.80

13 Subsection 1070Q(2) (table)

Repeal the table, substitute:

Rate of rent assistance			
Column 1 Item	Column 2 Person's family situation	Column 3 Rate A	Column 4 Rate B
1	Not a member of a couple	$3 \times \frac{\left(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40 \right)}{4}$	\$180.80
2	Partnered— partner does not have rent increased benefit	$3 \times \frac{\left(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$227.40 \right)}{4}$	\$170.20

Rate of rent assistance			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Item	Person's family situation	Rate A	Rate B
3	Partnered—partner has rent increased benefit	$3 \times \frac{\left(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$227.40 \right)}{8}$	Half the rate specified in column 4 of item 2
4	Partnered—member of an illness separated couple	$3 \times \frac{\left(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40 \right)}{4}$	\$180.80
5	Partnered—member of a respite care couple	$3 \times \frac{\left(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40 \right)}{4}$	\$180.80
6	Partnered—member of a temporarily separated couple	$3 \times \frac{\left(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40 \right)}{4}$	\$170.20
7	Partnered (partner in gaol)	$3 \times \frac{\left(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40 \right)}{4}$	\$180.80

14 Subsection 1070R(2) (table)

Repeal the table, substitute:

Schedule 3 Increased support for Commonwealth rent assistance recipients

Rate of rent assistance			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Item	Person's family situation	Rate of rent assistance	Maximum rate
1	Partnered— partner does not have rent increased benefit	$3 \times \frac{(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$227.40)}{4}$	\$170.20
2	Partnered— partner has rent increased benefit	$3 \times \frac{(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$227.40)}{8}$	Half the rate specified in column 4 of item 1
3	Partnered— member of an illness separated couple	$3 \times \frac{(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40)}{4}$	\$180.80
4	Partnered— member of a respite care couple	$3 \times \frac{(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40)}{4}$	\$180.80
5	Partnered— member of a temporarily separated couple	$3 \times \frac{(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40)}{4}$	\$170.20
6	Partnered (partner in gaol)	$3 \times \frac{(\text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40)}{4}$	\$180.80

15 Subsection 1070T(1)

Omit “\$82.80”, substitute “\$140.40”.

16 Subsection 1070T(3) (example)

Omit “\$82.80” (wherever occurring), substitute “\$140.40”.

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986**17 Point SCH6-C6 of Schedule 6 (table C-1)**

Repeal the table (not including the notes), substitute:

Table C-1—Rent threshold rates			
Column 1 Item	Column 2 Person's family situation	Column 3 Rate per year \$	Column 4 Rate per fortnight \$
1	Not a member of a couple A member of an illness separated couple A member of a respite care couple Partnered—partner without a rent increased pension	3,650.40	140.40
2	Partnered—partner with a rent increased pension	2,956.20	113.70

18 Subpoint SCH6-C8(1) of Schedule 6 (table C-2)

Repeal the table (not including the notes), substitute:

Table C-2—Rate of rent assistance			
Column 1 Item	Column 2 Person's family situation	Column 3 Rate A \$	Column 4 Rate B \$
1	Not a member of a couple A member of an illness separated couple	$3 \times \frac{(AR - RTR)}{4}$	4,700.80

Schedule 3 Increased support for Commonwealth rent assistance recipients

Table C-2—Rate of rent assistance			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Item	Person’s family situation	Rate A	Rate B
		\$	\$
	A member of a respite care couple		
	Partnered—partner without a rent increased pension		
2	Partnered—partner with a rent increased pension	$3 \times \frac{(AR - 2RTR)}{8}$	2,212.60

19 Application of amendments

A New Tax System (Family Assistance) Act 1999

- (1) The amendments of the *A New Tax System (Family Assistance) Act 1999* made by this Schedule apply in relation to working out a person’s Part A rate of family tax benefit for days occurring on or after 20 September 2023.
- (2) For the purposes of indexing an amount:
 - (a) specified in a table of the *A New Tax System (Family Assistance) Act 1999* as substituted by an item of this Schedule; and
 - (b) on the first indexation day for the amount that occurs after the day this item commences;

the current figure for the amount immediately before that first indexation day is taken to be that specified amount.

Social Security Act 1991

- (3) The amendments of the *Social Security Act 1991* made by this Schedule apply in relation to working out:

- (a) the rate of a person's social security payment for days occurring on or after 20 September 2023; and
- (b) the rate of a person's farm household allowance under the *Farm Household Support Act 2014* for days occurring on or after 20 September 2023.

(4) For the purposes of indexing an amount:

- (a) specified in subsection 1070T(1) of the *Social Security Act 1991* as amended by an item of this Schedule or in a table of that Act as substituted by an item of this Schedule; and
- (b) on the first indexation day for the amount that occurs after the day this item commences;

the current figure for the amount immediately before that first indexation day is taken to be that specified amount.

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986

(5) The amendments of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* made by this Schedule apply in relation to working out the rate of a person's service pension, income support supplement or veteran payment for days occurring on or after 20 September 2023.

(6) For the purposes of indexing an amount:

- (a) specified in a table of Schedule 6 to the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* as substituted by an item of this Schedule; and
- (b) on the first indexation day for the amount that occurs after the day this item commences;

the current figure for the amount immediately before that first indexation day is taken to be that specified amount.

*[Minister's second reading speech made in—
House of Representatives on 25 May 2023
Senate on 13 June 2023]*

(70/23)

34 *Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment (Strengthening the
Safety Net) Act 2023* *No. 52, 2023*