





# **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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**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:

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

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## 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.

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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

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Note: This table relates only to the provisions of this Act as originally enacted.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Legislation that is specified in a Schedule to this Act is amended or repealed as set out in the applicable items in the Schedule concerned, and any other item in a Schedule to this Act has effect according to its terms.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:

<b>Column 1 Item</b>	<b>Column 2 Person's family situation</b>	<b>Column 3 Rate per year</b>	<b>Column 4 Rate per fortnight</b>
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

<b>Table B—Maximum basic rates</b>			
<b>Column 1 Item</b>	<b>Column 2 Person’s family situation</b>	<b>Column 3 Rate per year</b>	<b>Column 4 Rate per fortnight</b>
	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

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**Table B—Maximum basic rates**

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

**2 Point 1066B-B1 (table B)**

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

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**Table B—Maximum basic rates**

<b>Column 1 Item</b>	<b>Column 2 Person’s family situation</b>	<b>Column 3 Rate per year</b>	<b>Column 4 Rate per fortnight</b>
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:

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<b>Table BA—Maximum basic rates (people who are not independent)</b>		
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person's situation</b>	<b>Rate</b>
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

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#### 4 Point 1067G-B3 (table BB)

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

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<b>Table BB—Maximum basic rates (people who are independent)</b>		
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person's situation</b>	<b>Rate</b>
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

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<b>Table BB—Maximum basic rates (people who are independent)</b>		
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person’s situation</b>	<b>Rate</b>
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:

<b>Table BC—Maximum basic rates (long term income support students)</b>		
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person’s situation</b>	<b>Rate</b>
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

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

<b>Column 1 Item</b>	<b>Column 2 Person's situation</b>	<b>Column 3 Rate</b>
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)**

<b>Column 1 Item</b>	<b>Column 2 Person's situation</b>	<b>Column 3 Rate</b>
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:

<b>Table B—Maximum basic rates</b>			
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person’s family situation</b>	<b>Rate</b>	
		<b>Column 3A</b>	<b>Column 3B</b>
		<b>Person with dependent child</b>	<b>Person without dependent child</b>
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

<b>Table B—Maximum basic rates</b>			
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person’s family situation</b>	<b>Rate</b>	
		<b>Column 3A</b>	<b>Column 3B</b>
		<b>Person with dependent child</b>	<b>Person without dependent child</b>
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:

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<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person’s family situation</b>	<b>Rate</b>
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)**

<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>
<b>Family situation</b>	<b>Rate A</b>	<b>Rate B</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:

<b>Rate of rent assistance</b>			
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	<b>Column 4</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person's family situation</b>	<b>Rate A</b>	<b>Rate B</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

<b>Rate of rent assistance</b>			
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	<b>Column 4</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person's family situation</b>	<b>Rate A</b>	<b>Rate B</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

<b>Rate of rent assistance</b>			
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	<b>Column 4</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person's family situation</b>	<b>Rate A</b>	<b>Rate B</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

<b>Rate of rent assistance</b>			
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	<b>Column 4</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person's family situation</b>	<b>Rate A</b>	<b>Rate B</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:

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

**11 Subsection 1070N(2) (table)**

Repeal the table, substitute:

<b>Rate of rent assistance</b>			
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	<b>Column 4</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person's family situation</b>	<b>Rate A</b>	<b>Rate B</b>
1	Not a member of a couple and: (a) in disability accommodation; or (b) independent	$3 \times \frac{\left( \text{Fortnightly rent} - \$140.40 \right)}{4}$	\$180.80
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

**Schedule 3** Increased support for Commonwealth rent assistance recipients

<b>Rate of rent assistance</b>			
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	<b>Column 4</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person's family situation</b>	<b>Rate A</b>	<b>Rate B</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

<b>Rate of rent assistance</b>			
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	<b>Column 4</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person's family situation</b>	<b>Rate A</b>	<b>Rate B</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:

<b>Rate of rent assistance</b>			
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	<b>Column 4</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person's family situation</b>	<b>Rate A</b>	<b>Rate B</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

<b>Rate of rent assistance</b>			
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	<b>Column 4</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person's family situation</b>	<b>Rate A</b>	<b>Rate B</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

<b>Rate of rent assistance</b>			
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	<b>Column 4</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person's family situation</b>	<b>Rate A</b>	<b>Rate B</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

<b>Rate of rent assistance</b>			
<b>Column 1 Item</b>	<b>Column 2 Person's family situation</b>	<b>Column 3 Rate A</b>	<b>Column 4 Rate B</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:

<b>Rate of rent assistance</b>			
<b>Column 1 Item</b>	<b>Column 2 Person's family situation</b>	<b>Column 3 Rate A</b>	<b>Column 4 Rate B</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

<b>Rate of rent assistance</b>			
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	<b>Column 4</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person's family situation</b>	<b>Rate A</b>	<b>Rate B</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

<b>Rate of rent assistance</b>			
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	<b>Column 4</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person's family situation</b>	<b>Rate of rent assistance</b>	<b>Maximum rate</b>
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:

<b>Table C-1—Rent threshold rates</b>			
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	<b>Column 4</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person's family situation</b>	<b>Rate per year</b>	<b>Rate per fortnight</b>
		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
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:

<b>Table C-2—Rate of rent assistance</b>			
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	<b>Column 4</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person's family situation</b>	<b>Rate A</b>	<b>Rate B</b>
		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</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

<b>Table C-2—Rate of rent assistance</b>			
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>	<b>Column 4</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Person’s family situation</b>	<b>Rate A</b>	<b>Rate B</b>
		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</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.

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

*(70/23)*

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