

SOCIAL SECURITY AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2)

EXPLANATORY NOTE

THIS Bill amends the Social Security Act 1964.

Clause 1 relates to the Short Title.

PART I

MONETARY BENEFITS

Clause 2 amends section 3 of the principal Act to change the definition of the term "benefit".

The additional benefit is now to be known as an accommodation benefit, and the additional benefit payable under a special entitlement is now to be known as a special benefit.

Clause 3 corrects an incorrect cross reference in section 27z (1) of the principal Act.

Clause 4 amends section 58 of the principal Act which sets out the eligibility criteria for unemployment benefits. The amendment will allow the benefit to be paid to a person who is undergoing an approved employment-related training programme.

Clause 5: Subclause (1) amends section 60 (3) of the principal Act, which, *inter alia*, provides the Social Security Commission with authority to postpone payment of an unemployment benefit for up to 6 weeks, or to withdraw an existing benefit, if the applicant or beneficiary has refused, without good reason, an offer of suitable employment. The amendment extends this provision to provide for a benefit to be similarly postponed or withdrawn if the applicant or beneficiary has refused to attend, without good reason, a course of training for the improvement of his capacity or suitability for employment.

Subclause (2) makes it clear that, like other income-tested benefits, unemployment benefits are subject to periodical renewal based on a statement of the beneficiary's current circumstances.

Clause 6 amends section 61A of the principal Act to define the term "child" for the purposes of the payment of the child supplement. The definition makes it clear that a child supplement can be paid beyond the age of 16 and up to the end of the year in which the child attains the age of 18, if family benefit is still payable for the child.

Clause 7 amends section 61E of the principal Act to change the name of the additional benefit to the accommodation benefit.

Clause 8 amends section 61F of the principal Act.

Subclause (1) provides for the change of name to accommodation benefit.

Subclause (2) re-enacts in section 61F a subsection currently inappropriately contained in section 61G of the principal Act.

Subclause (3) repeals the Eighteenth Schedule to the principal Act, and substitutes a new Eighteenth Schedule setting out the rates and method of assessment of accommodation benefits. The changes contained in the new Schedule are as follows:

- (a) The maximum grant of accommodation benefit is increased from \$16 to \$18 a week:
- (b) The lowest accommodation cost (i.e. rent or outgoings on a home) for which additional benefit can be paid, is increased from \$16 to \$18 a week:
- (c) An income exemption for single applicants of \$5 a week is established which will allow those persons to have private income (including notional income on cash assets) of up to that amount without affecting their entitlement to accommodation benefit. Currently, all private income and cash assets are taken into account in assessing the amount of the grant to a single person. (Married couples and solo parents already have an income exemption of \$8 a week).

Subclause (4) provides the Social Security Commission with authority to continue an existing grant of additional benefit as if the changes effected by *subclause (3)* had not been enacted.

Subclause (5) provides that any additional benefit continued under *subclause (4)* shall be reassessed as accommodation benefit under the new Eighteenth Schedule from the date the grant is first renewed or reviewed.

Clause 9 repeals section 61G of the principal Act, and substitutes a new section. The existing section 61G provides for a special entitlement to additional benefit to be fixed by the Social Security Commission if it is satisfied that such special entitlement is justified after taking into account a person's financial circumstances and commitments. The substituted section retains the Commission's discretion, but—

- (a) The additional benefit payable under a special entitlement is now to be known as a special benefit to distinguish it from the accommodation benefit:
- (b) It is made clear that grants can be made to non-beneficiaries as well as to beneficiaries:
- (c) It is made clear that in assessing eligibility for a grant, the Commission is required to take into account all the person's financial circumstances and commitments, including any benefit or pension he may be receiving.

Clause 10 amends section 69c of the principal Act, which relates to the disability allowance.

Subclause (1) makes an amendment which places domestic purposes beneficiaries on the same basis as invalids' and widows' beneficiaries, as far as the disability allowance is concerned. Under the existing section 69c (1) (b), the Social Security Commission is required to be satisfied that a domestic

purposes beneficiary is likely to remain on the benefit for at least 26 weeks. This requirement is removed and domestic purposes beneficiaries (or related emergency beneficiaries) will be able to apply for the disability allowance concurrently with the grant of the benefit.

Subclause (2) repeals the Nineteenth Schedule to the principal Act, and substitutes a new Nineteenth Schedule increasing the maximum rate of a disability allowance from \$8 to \$11 a week.

Subclause (3) provides the Social Security Commission with authority to continue an existing grant of disability allowance as if the change effected by *subclause (2)* had not been enacted.

Subclause (4) provides that any disability allowance continued under *subclause (3)* shall be reassessed under the new Nineteenth Schedule from the date the allowance is first renewed or reviewed.

Clause 11 repeals section 75 (3) of the principal Act, which relates to the entitlement to benefits of persons undergoing treatment in institutions under the Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Act 1966. (See *clause 12*).

Clause 12 re-enacts and amends section 75 (3) of the principal Act as a new section 75A.

At present (under section 75 (3)), persons undergoing treatment in institutions under the Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Act 1966 have no entitlement as of right to a benefit.

The new section 75A gives the Social Security Commission discretion to fix an appropriate rate of benefit having regard to all the person's financial circumstances and commitments.

Clause 13 amends section 77 of the principal Act, which relates to the effect of the absence from New Zealand of a beneficiary.

Subclause (1) provides, as at present, that a benefit shall not be payable in respect of any period during which a beneficiary is absent from New Zealand unless the period of absence is of 13 weeks or less.

At present the Social Security Commission may pay the benefit in respect of a period of 13 weeks if absence for more than 13 weeks but not more than 15 weeks was due to circumstances beyond the beneficiary's control. Under this subclause the 15 week limitation is removed. Thus if a beneficiary is absent for any period over 13 weeks, due to circumstances beyond his control, the benefit may be paid in respect of a period of 13 weeks. It is also made clear that the circumstances causing the extended period of absence must be circumstances which arose while the person was absent from New Zealand.

Subclause (2) makes it clear that section 77 (1) and (1A) are to apply notwithstanding anything to the contrary in—

- (a) Any agreement entered into by the Government of New Zealand with the Government of any other country, whether before or after the commencement of the subclause, providing for reciprocity in social security benefits between New Zealand and that other country; or
- (b) The provisions of any Act giving effect to any such agreement.

Subclause (3) provides that notwithstanding the new section 77 (1), where any benefit has been paid to or in respect of a person who became qualified to receive it while he was absent from New Zealand, and the date of such qualification occurred on or after the 1st day of August 1979 but before the passing of this Act, that benefit shall be deemed to have been lawfully payable.

Subclause (4) provides for the clause to be retrospective to 1 August 1979, being the date on which section 10 of the Social Security Amendment Act 1979 came into force.

Clause 14 amends the Social Security (Reciprocity with the United Kingdom) Act 1969 to make it clear that section 77 of the Social Security Act 1964 is to prevail over the reciprocity agreement. (See also *clause 13*).

This clause is also retrospective to 1 August 1979.

Clause 15 amends the Social Security Amendment Act (No. 2) 1980 to correct a printing error whereby some Schedules were inadvertently omitted.

Clause 16 increases the rates of social security benefits for the period 7 January to 21 July 1981. The rates of widows', invalids', miners', sickness, unemployment, domestic purposes, and related emergency benefits, are increased by \$4.52 a week in respect of unmarried persons and by \$3.77 a week each in respect of married persons.

The rate of child supplements for the first child of a solo parent is increased by \$3.02 to \$38 a week.

The rate of orphan's benefits is increased by \$2.20 to \$32.65 a week.

Clause 17 increases the rates of social security benefits on and after 22 July 1981.

The rates of widows', invalids', miners', sickness, unemployment, domestic purposes, and related emergency benefits, are increased by \$4.75 a week in respect of unmarried persons and by \$3.96 a week each in respect of married persons.

The rate of child supplement for the first child of a solo parent is increased by \$3.17 to \$41.17 a week. The rate of child supplement for any child of a married couple and the second and subsequent children of a solo parent, is increased from \$4 to \$5 a week.

The rate of orphans' benefits is increased by \$2.35 to \$35 a week.

PART II

MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL BENEFITS AND OTHER RELATED BENEFITS

Clause 18 amends section 97A of the principal Act to extend the application of the immunisation benefit to the administration of vaccine for immunisation against rubella to a female person of child-bearing age.

Hon. G. F. Gair

SOCIAL SECURITY AMENDMENT (NO. 2)

ANALYSIS

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1. Short Title

PART I

MONETARY BENEFITS

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Special Benefit

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15. Amending Social Security Amendment Act (No. 2) 1980
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PART II

MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL BENEFITS AND OTHER RELATED BENEFITS

18. Immunisation benefit Schedules

A BILL INTITULED

An Act to amend the Social Security Act 1964

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same,
5 as follows:

1. Short Title—This Act may be cited as the Social Security Amendment Act (No. 2) 1981, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Social Security Act 1964* (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).

PART I

5

MONETARY BENEFITS

2. Interpretation—Section 3 (1) of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing paragraph (c) of the definition of the term “benefit” (as inserted by section 2 (1) of the Social Security Amendment Act 1978), and substituting the following paragraphs: 10

“(c) Accommodation benefit payable under sections 61E and 61F of this Act:

“(ca) Special benefit payable under section 61G of this Act:” 15

3. Effect of deduction notices—(1) Section 27z (1) of the principal Act (as inserted by section 7 of the Social Security Amendment Act 1980) is hereby amended by omitting the expression “27N”, and substituting the expression “27Y”. 20

(2) This section shall be deemed to have come into force on the 1st day of April 1981.

4. Unemployment benefits—Section 58 (1) of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing paragraph (b), and substituting the following paragraph:

“(b) Is capable of undertaking and is willing to undertake suitable work, or, is willing to undertake suitable work and is engaged in an employment-related training programme approved by the Commission for the purposes of this section; and” 25

5. Period for which unemployment benefit payable— 30
(1) Section 60 (3) of the principal Act (as substituted by section 11 (1) of the Social Security Amendment Act 1976) is hereby amended by inserting, after paragraph (c), the following paragraph:

*Reprinted 1975, Vol. 4, p. 2951

Amendments: 1976, No. 40; 1977, No. 120; 1977, No. 133; 1978, No. 58; 1979, No. 14; 1980, No. 157; 1980, No. 158

“(ca) The applicant or beneficiary has refused or failed, without a good and sufficient reason, to engage in a course of training for the improvement of his capacity or suitability for employment; or”.

5 (2) The said section 60 is hereby further amended by repealing subsection (4), and substituting the following subsection:

10 “(4) Except as provided in this section and unless the beneficiary becomes entitled to receive some other benefit, an unemployment benefit shall continue to be payable for such period as the Commission determines, and shall from time to time be renewed for such further period as the Commission determines, so long as the beneficiary satisfies the conditions prescribed by section 58 of this Act.”

15 **6. Child supplement**—Section 61A of the principal Act (as substituted by section 7 (1) of the Social Security Amendment Act 1979) is hereby amended by adding the following subsection:

20 “(2) In this section and in the Fourteenth Schedule to this Act, ‘child’ means a child in respect of whom a family benefit is payable under section 32 of this Act.”

7. Accommodation benefit—Section 61E of the principal Act (as inserted by section 10 (1) of the Social Security Amendment Act 1975) is hereby amended by omitting the
25 words “additional benefit” wherever they occur, and substituting in each case the words “accommodation benefit”.

8. Rates of accommodation benefit—(1) Section 61F of the principal Act (as so inserted) is hereby amended by omitting the words “additional benefit” wherever they occur, and substituting in each case the words “accommodation benefit”.
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(2) The said section 61F (as so inserted) is hereby further amended by adding the following subsection:

35 “(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section or of section 61E of this Act, the Commission may, in its discretion, refuse to grant an accommodation benefit or terminate or reduce any accommodation benefit already granted if the Commission is satisfied that the applicant has not realised any assets available for his personal use.”

(3) The principal Act is hereby further amended by repealing the Eighteenth Schedule (as substituted by section 6 (1) of the Social Security Amendment Act (No. 2) 1980), and substituting the Eighteenth Schedule set out in the First Schedule to this Act. 5

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (3) of this section, if any person was, immediately before the commencement of this section, in receipt of an additional benefit under section 61E of the principal Act, the Commission may, in its discretion, continue to assess such a benefit as if this section had not been enacted. 10

(5) Any additional benefit continued under subsection (4) of this section shall be reassessed as an accommodation benefit in accordance with the provisions of the Eighteenth Schedule to the principal Act (as substituted by subsection (3) of this section) from the date such benefit is first renewed under section 80 (4) of the principal Act or is first reviewed under section 81 (1) of that Act, whichever is sooner. 15

9. Special benefit—(1) The principal Act is hereby further amended by repealing section 61G (as so inserted), and substituting the following heading and section: 20

“Special Benefit

“61G. **Special benefit**—The Commission may, in its discretion, fix a special entitlement to a special benefit in respect of any person, whether or not that person is receiving any other benefit under this Part of this Act or any pension or allowance under the War Pensions Act 1954, if the Commission is satisfied that, after taking into account all of that person’s financial circumstances and commitments, including any benefit payable under this Part of this Act and any pension or allowance payable under the War Pensions Act 1954, such a special entitlement is justified.” 25 30

(2) The following enactments are hereby consequentially repealed:

- (a) Section 15 of the Social Security Amendment Act 1976: 35
- (b) Section 12 of the Social Security Amendment Act (No. 2) 1977.

10. Disability allowance—(1) Section 69c (1) of the principal Act (as inserted by section 12 (1) of the Social Security Amendment Act 1975) is hereby amended—

5 (a) By omitting from paragraph (a) the words “or widow’s”, and substituting the words “widow’s, or domestic purposes”:

(b) By repealing paragraph (b).

10 (2) The principal Act is hereby further amended by repealing the Nineteenth Schedule (as substituted by section 6 (1) of the Social Security Amendment Act (No. 2) 1980), and substituting the Nineteenth Schedule set out in the Second Schedule to this Act.

15 (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (2) of this section, if any person was, immediately before the commencement of this section, in receipt of a disability allowance under section 69c of the principal Act, the Commission may, in its discretion, continue to assess such a benefit as if this section had not been enacted.

20 (4) Any disability allowance continued under subsection (3) of this section shall be reassessed in accordance with the provisions of the Nineteenth Schedule to the principal Act (as substituted by subsection (2) of this section) from the date such allowance is first renewed under section 80 (4) of the principal Act or is first reviewed under section 81 (1) of that
25 Act, whichever is sooner.

11. Beneficiaries in hospital—(1) Section 75 (3) of the principal Act (as added by section 22 of the Social Security Amendment Act 1978) is hereby repealed.

30 (2) Section 22 of the Social Security Amendment Act 1978 is hereby consequentially repealed.

12. Beneficiaries in institutions under Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Act 1966—The principal Act is hereby further amended by inserting, after section 75, the following section:
35 “75A. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Part of this Act, where a beneficiary, or any other person in respect of whom a benefit is payable, is a resident of an institution certified under the Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Act 1966 (not being a psychiatric hospital within the meaning of the Mental Health Act 1969) or of any institution which is
40 fulfilling a similar purpose to an institution certified under

that Act, the rate of any benefit payable in respect of the period of residence in such institution shall be determined by the Commission after taking into account all of the beneficiary's financial circumstances and commitments."

13. Effect of absence of beneficiary from New Zealand— 5

(1) Section 77 of the principal Act (as amended by section 10 (1) of the Social Security Amendment Act 1979) is hereby further amended by repealing subsection (1), and substituting the following subsection:

"(1) A benefit shall not be payable in respect of any period 10 during which the person in respect of whom the benefit is payable is absent from New Zealand unless the period of absence is of 13 weeks or less:

"Provided that the Commission may pay the benefit in 15 respect of a period of 13 weeks if such person's absence has been for more than 13 weeks and his absence for more than 13 weeks was due to circumstances beyond his control which arose while he was absent."

(2) The said section 77 (as so amended) is hereby further 20 amended by inserting, after subsection (1A), the following subsection:

"(1AA) Subsections (1) and (1A) of this section shall apply notwithstanding anything to the contrary in—

"(a) Any agreement entered into by the Government of 25 New Zealand with the Government of any other country, whether before or after the commencement of this subsection, providing for reciprocity in social security benefits between New Zealand and that other country; or

"(b) The provisions of any Act giving effect to any such 30 agreement."

(3) Notwithstanding anything in section 77 (1) of the principal Act (as substituted by subsection (1) of this section), where any benefit has been paid to or in respect of a person who became qualified to receive it while he was 35 absent from New Zealand, and the date of such qualification occurred on or after the 1st day of August 1979 but before the passing of this Act, that benefit shall be deemed to have been lawfully payable.

(4) This section shall be deemed to have come into force 40 on the 1st day of August 1979.

14. Amending Social Security (Reciprocity with the United Kingdom) Act 1969—(1) The Social Security (Reciprocity with the United Kingdom) Act 1969 is hereby amended by inserting, after section 2A, the following section:

5 “**2B. Effect of absence from New Zealand**—Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Act or in the agreement set out in the Schedule to this Act, a benefit shall not be payable in respect of any period during which the beneficiary is absent from New Zealand except in respect of such period
10 and in such circumstances as are permitted by section 77 of the Social Security Act 1964.

(2) This section shall be deemed to have come into force on the 1st day of August 1979.

15. Amending Social Security Amendment Act (No. 2) 1980—(1) The Second Schedule to the Social Security Amendment Act (No. 2) 1980 is hereby amended by adding the Sixteenth to Nineteenth Schedules to the principal Act set out in the Third Schedule to this Act.

(2) This section and the Third Schedule to this Act shall
20 be deemed to have been in force during the period commencing on the 23rd day of July 1980 and ending with—

(a) The 21st day of July 1981, in respect of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Schedules to the principal Act set out in the said Third Schedule:

25 (b) The day before the date on which this Act receives the Governor-General’s assent, in respect of the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Schedules to the principal Act set out in the said Third Schedule.

16. Increasing rates of benefits in respect of period 7 January 1981 to 21 July 1981—(1) In respect of the period commencing on the 7th day of January 1981 and ending with the 21st day of July 1981, the principal Act shall have effect as if each provision of that Act specified in the first column of the Fourth Schedule to this Act had been amended by
30 omitting every expression set out in the second column of that Schedule opposite the reference to that provision, wherever that expression occurs, and substituting in each case the expression set out opposite to it in the third column of that Schedule.

(2) This section and the Fourth Schedule to this Act shall be deemed to have come into force on the 7th day of January 1981.

17. Increasing rates of benefits and child supplements on and after 22 July 1981—(1) The principal Act is hereby further amended by repealing the Third to Tenth, Twelfth, Fourteenth, Sixteenth, and Seventeenth Schedules (as substituted by section 6 (1) of the Social Security Amendment Act (No. 2) 1980), and substituting the Third to Tenth, Twelfth, Fourteenth, Sixteenth, and Seventeenth Schedules set out in the Fifth Schedule to this Act.

(2) Subject to section 15 (2) of this Act, sections 5 and 6 of, and the First and Second Schedules to, the Social Security Amendment Act (No. 2) 1980 are hereby consequentially repealed.

(3) This section and the Fifth Schedule to this Act shall be deemed to have come into force on the 22nd day of July 1981.

PART II

MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL BENEFITS AND OTHER RELATED BENEFITS

18. Immunisation benefit—(1) Section 97A (1) of the principal Act (as inserted by section 35 of the Social Security Amendment Act 1972) is hereby amended by inserting, after the words “16 years of age”, the words “, or, if in the course of a programme of immunisation against rubella approved by the Department, vaccine supplied by the Department is administered to a female person of child-bearing age,”.

(2) This section shall be deemed to have come into force on the 1st day of September 1981.

SCHEDULES

FIRST SCHEDULE

Section 8 (3)

NEW EIGHTEENTH SCHEDULE TO PRINCIPAL ACT

“EIGHTEENTH SCHEDULE

Sections 61E, 61F

RATES OF ACCOMMODATION BENEFIT

1. To any unmarried person without a dependent child or children Two-thirds of the amount (but not exceeding \$18 a week) by which the applicant's weekly rent or weekly outgoings on any property, occupied by him as a home, exceeds \$18 a week, or by which his weekly board payments exceed \$35 a week, diminished by \$1 a week in respect of each complete \$1 of the applicant's weekly income in excess of \$5 a week.
2. To any married couple or solo parent with a dependent child or children Two-thirds of the amount (but not exceeding \$18 a week) by which the couple's or solo parent's weekly rent or weekly outgoings on any property, occupied by the couple or solo parent as a home, exceeds \$18 a week, or by which the couple's or solo parent's weekly board payments exceed \$58 a week, diminished by \$1 a week in respect of each complete \$1 of the couple's or solo parent's weekly income in excess of \$8 a week.

3. For the purposes of clauses 1 and 2 of this Schedule, an applicant's or couple's or solo parent's weekly income shall be deemed to be his or their actual income (other than that derived from cash assets) plus \$1 a week for each \$100 of his or their cash assets.

4. In computing for the purposes of this Schedule the income of a solo parent receiving a widow's or domestic purposes benefit, the Commission may, in its discretion, disregard as income some or all of that part of his or her personal earnings (not exceeding \$20 a week) used to meet the cost of placing a dependent child or children of the beneficiary in a day care centre registered under the Child Care Centre Regulations 1960, or in any other day care facility approved by the Commission for the purpose.

5. After computing, in accordance with this Schedule, the amount of additional benefit payable, that amount may be rounded up to the next complete 50 cents.”

SECOND SCHEDULE

Section 10 (2)

NEW NINETEENTH SCHEDULE TO PRINCIPAL ACT

Sections 39A and 69c

"NINETEENTH SCHEDULE

RATES OF HANDICAPPED CHILD'S ALLOWANCE PAYABLE IN RESPECT OF A
SERIOUSLY HANDICAPPED CHILD AND DISABILITY ALLOWANCE PAYABLE
TO A DISABLED PERSON

1. Rate of handicapped child's
allowance \$8 a week.
 2. Maximum rate of disability
allowance \$11 a week."
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THIRD SCHEDULE

Section 15 (1)

SIXTEENTH TO NINETEENTH SCHEDULES TO PRINCIPAL
ACT ADDED TO SECOND SCHEDULE TO SOCIAL SECURITY
AMENDMENT ACT (NO. 2) 1980 AS FROM 22 JULY 1980

“SIXTEENTH SCHEDULE

Sections 27B, 27C, 27H

RATES OF DOMESTIC PURPOSES BENEFITS

1. To a beneficiary without dependent children \$3,196.96 a year, diminished by 40c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$1,300 a year but not in excess of \$2,080 a year, and by 80c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$2,080 a year.
2. To a beneficiary with 1 or more dependent children \$3,196.96 a year, increased, in the discretion of the Commission, by a child supplement not exceeding the appropriate amount specified in the Fourteenth Schedule to this Act, and diminished by 40c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$1,300 a year but not in excess of \$2,080 a year, and by 80c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$2,080 a year:

Provided that in computing for the purposes of this clause the income of a solo parent the Commission may, in its discretion, disregard as income some or all of that part of his or her personal earnings (not exceeding \$20 a week) used to meet the cost of placing a dependent child or children of the beneficiary in a day care centre registered under the Child Care Centre Regulations 1960, or in any other day care facility approved by the Commission for the purpose.

THIRD SCHEDULE—*continued*

“SEVENTEENTH SCHEDULE

Sections 27G, 27H

RATES OF DOMESTIC PURPOSES BENEFITS

1. To an unmarried beneficiary under the age of 18 years \$2,432.04 a year, diminished by 40c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$1,300 a year but not in excess of \$2,080 a year, and by 80c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$2,080 a year.
2. To any other unmarried beneficiary \$3,196.96 a year, diminished by 40c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$1,300 a year but not in excess of \$2,080 a year, and by 80c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$2,080 a year.
3. To a married beneficiary whose wife or husband is granted, in her or his own right, a benefit (other than national superannuation) under Part I of this Act, or an economic pension, war veteran's allowance, or war service pension under the War Pensions Act 1954. \$2,663.96 a year, diminished by 20c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary and his or her spouse in excess of \$1,300 a year but not in excess of \$2,080 a year, and by 40c for every complete \$1 of such income in excess of \$2,080 a year.
4. To any other married beneficiary \$2,663.96 a year, diminished by 40c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary and the spouse of the beneficiary in excess of \$1,300 a year but not in excess of \$2,080 a year, and by 80c for every complete \$1 of such income in excess of \$2,080 a year:

Provided that, if the spouse of the beneficiary is not in receipt of national superannuation under Part I of this Act, the rate of the domestic purposes benefit payable to the beneficiary shall not be less than the aggregate of the rates of domestic purposes benefits that would be payable if the beneficiary and the spouse of the beneficiary were both entitled to receive a domestic purposes benefit, but the rate of benefit payable hereunder shall not exceed \$2,663.96 a year.

THIRD SCHEDULE—*continued*

“EIGHTEENTH SCHEDULE

Sections 61E, 61F

RATES OF ADDITIONAL BENEFIT

1. To any unmarried person without a dependent child or children Two-thirds of the amount (but not exceeding \$16 a week) by which the applicant's weekly rent or weekly outgoings on any property, occupied by him as a home, exceeds \$16 a week, or by which his weekly board payments exceed \$35 a week, diminished by \$1 a week in respect of each complete \$1 of the applicant's weekly income.
2. To any married couple or solo parent with a dependent child or children Two-thirds of the amount (but not exceeding \$16 a week) by which the couple's or solo parent's weekly rent or weekly outgoings on any property, occupied by the couple or solo parent as a home, exceeds \$16 a week, or by which the couple's or solo parent's weekly board payments exceed \$58 a week, diminished by \$1 a week in respect of each complete \$1 of the couple's or solo parent's weekly income in excess of \$8 a week.

3. For the purposes of clauses 1 and 2 of this Schedule, an applicant's or couple's or solo parent's weekly income shall be deemed to be his or their actual income (other than that derived from cash assets) plus \$1 a week for each \$100 of his or their cash assets.

4. In computing for the purposes of this Schedule the income of a solo parent receiving a widow's or domestic purposes benefit, the Commission may, in its discretion, disregard as income some or all of that part of his or her personal earnings (not exceeding \$20 a week) used to meet the cost of placing a dependent child or children of the beneficiary in a day care centre registered under the Child Care Centre Regulations 1960, or in any other day care facility approved by the Commission for the purpose.

5. After computing, in accordance with the Schedule, the amount of additional benefit payable, that amount may be rounded up to the next complete 50 cents.

“NINETEENTH SCHEDULE

Sections 39A, 69C

RATES OF HANDICAPPED CHILD'S ALLOWANCE PAYABLE IN RESPECT OF A SERIOUSLY HANDICAPPED CHILD AND DISABILITY ALLOWANCE PAYABLE TO A DISABLED PERSON

1. Rate of handicapped child's allowance \$8 a week.
2. Maximum rate of disability allowance \$8 a week.”

FOURTH SCHEDULE

Section 16 (1)AMENDMENTS TO PRINCIPAL ACT INCREASING RATES OF BENEFITS IN
RESPECT OF PERIOD 7 JANUARY 1981 TO 21 JULY 1981

Provisions Amended	Expressions Omitted	Expressions Substituted
Third Schedule—	\$	\$
Clause 1	3,196.96	3,432
Clause 2	3,196.96	3,432
Fourth Schedule	1,583.40	1,697.80
Sixth Schedule—		
Clause 1 (a)	2,432.04	2,610.92
Clause 1 (b)	3,196.96	3,432
Clause 1 (c)	2,663.96	2,860
Clause 1 (d)	2,663.96	2,860
Clause 1 (e)	2,663.96	2,860
Clause 2	4,275.96	4,472
	533	572
Seventh Schedule—		
Clause 1 (a)	2,663.96	2,860
Clause 1 (b)	3,196.96	3,432
Clause 2	3,113.76	3,348
Eighth Schedule—		
Clause 1 (a)	46.77	50.21
Clause 1 (b)	61.48	66
Clause 1 (c)	51.23	55
Clause 1 (d)	51.23	55
Clause 1 (e)	51.23	55
Clause 1 (f)	51.23	55
Clause 2	40.98	44
Ninth Schedule—		
Clause 1 (a)	46.77	50.21
Clause 1 (b)	61.48	66
Clause 1 (c)	51.23	55
Clause 2	40.98	44
Fourteenth Schedule—		
Clause 1 (a) (i)	1,818.96	1,976
Clause 2 (a) (i)	34.98	38
Sixteenth Schedule—		
Clause 1	3,196.96	3,432
Clause 2	3,196.96	3,432
Seventeenth Schedule—		
Clause 1	2,432.04	2,610.92
Clause 2	3,196.96	3,432
Clause 3	2,663.96	2,860
Clause 4	2,663.96	2,860

FIFTH SCHEDULE

Section 17 (1)

NEW THIRD TO TENTH, TWELFTH, FOURTEENTH, SIXTEENTH, AND SEVENTEENTH SCHEDULES TO PRINCIPAL ACT

(Effective on and after 22 July 1981)

“THIRD SCHEDULE

Sections 21, 24

RATES OF WIDOW’S BENEFITS

1. To a beneficiary without dependent children \$3,679 a year, diminished by 40c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$1,300 a year but not in excess of \$2,080 a year, and by 80c for every complete \$1 of her total annual income in excess of \$2,080 a year.

2. To a beneficiary with 1 or more dependent children \$3,679 a year, increased, in the discretion of the Commission, by a child supplement not exceeding the appropriate amount specified in the Fourteenth Schedule to this Act, and diminished by 40c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$1,300 a year but not in excess of \$2,080 a year, and by 80c for every complete \$1 of her total annual income in excess of \$2,080 a year:

Provided that in computing for the purposes of this clause the income of a widow, the Commission may, in its discretion, disregard as income some or all of that part of her personal earnings (not exceeding \$20 a week) used to meet the cost of placing a dependent child or children of the beneficiary in a day care centre registered under the Child Care Centre Regulations 1960, or in any other day care facility approved by the Commission for the purpose.

“FOURTH SCHEDULE

Section 29

MAXIMUM RATES OF ORPHAN’S BENEFITS

In every case \$1,820 a year, diminished by \$3 for every complete \$4 of the total annual income of the orphan in excess of \$260 a year.

FIFTH SCHEDULE—*continued*

Section 34

“FIFTH SCHEDULE

RATES OF FAMILY BENEFITS

In respect of each child \$6 a week.

Sections 42, 43

“SIXTH SCHEDULE

RATES OF INVALIDS' BENEFITS

1. (a) To an unmarried beneficiary under the age of 18 years \$2,799.16 a year, diminished by 40c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$1,300 a year but not in excess of \$2,080 a year, and by 80c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$2,080 a year.
- (b) To any other unmarried beneficiary \$3,679 a year, diminished by 40c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$1,300 but not in excess of \$2,080 a year, and by 80c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$2,080 a year.
- (c) To a married beneficiary whose spouse is granted, in his or her own right, a benefit (other than national superannuation) under Part I of this Act, or an economic pension, war veteran's allowance, or war service pension under the War Pensions Act 1954 \$3,065.92 a year, diminished by 20c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary and his or her spouse in excess of \$1,300 a year, but not in excess of \$2,080 a year, and by 40c for every complete \$1 of such income in excess of \$2,080 a year.
- (d) To a married beneficiary whose spouse is not granted, in his or her own right, a benefit under Part I of this Act, or an economic pension, war veteran's allowance, or war service pension under the War Pensions Act 1954 \$3,065.92 a year, increased by \$3,065.92 a year in respect of his or her spouse, the total rate to be diminished by 40c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary and his or her spouse in excess of \$1,300 a year but not in excess of \$2,080 a year, and by 80c for every complete \$1 of such income in excess of \$2,080 a year.

FIFTH SCHEDULE—*continued*

“SIXTH SCHEDULE—*continued*

- (e) To a married beneficiary whose spouse is granted, in his or her own right, national superannuation under Part I of this Act \$3,065.92 a year, diminished by 40c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary and his or her spouse in excess of \$1,300 a year but not in excess of \$2,080 a year, and by 80c for every complete \$1 of such income in excess of \$2,080 a year:

Provided that if the beneficiary has the care of a dependent child or children, the rate of benefit specified in this Schedule may, in the discretion of the Commission, be increased by a child supplement not exceeding the appropriate rate specified in the Fourteenth Schedule to this Act:

Provided also that, in computing for the purposes of this clause the income of any totally blind person, the Commission shall take no account of the personal earnings of that person:

Provided further that the rates specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this clause shall be reduced by the amount of any family benefit payable under Part I of this Act in respect of the beneficiary.

2. Maximum amount from all sources where subsidy paid on earnings of blind invalid, in every case \$4,677.92 a year, increased by \$613.08 a year if the beneficiary is an unmarried person.

“SEVENTH SCHEDULE

Sections 49, 53

RATES OF MINERS' BENEFITS AND MINERS' WIDOWS' BENEFITS

1. (a) To a married miner \$3,065.92 a year increased by \$3,065.92 a year in respect of his wife.
 (b) In any other case \$3,679 a year.
 2. To a miner's widow \$3,595.80 a year.

“EIGHTH SCHEDULE

Sections 54A (3), 55

RATES OF SICKNESS BENEFITS

1. (a) To an unmarried beneficiary under the age of 18 years without dependants \$53.83 a week, diminished by 8c for every complete 20c of the total weekly income of the beneficiary in excess of \$25 a week but not in excess of \$40 a week, and by 16c for every complete 20c of the total weekly income of the beneficiary in excess of \$40 a week.

FIFTH SCHEDULE—*continued*"EIGHTH SCHEDULE—*continued*

- (b) To any other unmarried beneficiary \$70.75 a week, diminished by 8c for every complete 20c of the total weekly income of the beneficiary in excess of \$25 a week but not in excess of \$40 a week, and by 16c for every complete 20c of the total weekly income of the beneficiary in excess of \$40 a week.
- (c) To a married beneficiary whose spouse is granted, in his or her own right, a benefit (other than national superannuation) under Part I of this Act, or an economic pension, war veteran's allowance, or war service pension under the War Pensions Act 1954 \$58.96 a week, diminished by 4c for every complete 20c of the total weekly income of the beneficiary and his or her spouse in excess of \$25 a week but not in excess of \$40 a week, and by 8c for every complete 20c of such income in excess of \$40 a week.
- (d) To a married beneficiary whose spouse is not granted, in his or her own right, a benefit under Part I of this Act, or an economic pension, war veteran's allowance, or war service pension under the War Pensions Act 1954 \$58.96 a week, increased by \$58.96 a week in respect of his or her spouse, the total rate to be diminished by 8c for every complete 20c of the total weekly income of the beneficiary and his or her spouse in excess of \$25 a week but not in excess of \$40 a week, and by 16c for every complete 20c of such income in excess of \$40 a week.
- (e) To a married beneficiary whose spouse is granted, in his or her own right, national superannuation under Part I of this Act \$58.96 a week, diminished by 8c for every complete 20c of the total weekly income of the beneficiary and his or her spouse in excess of \$25 a week but not in excess of \$40 a week, and by 16c for every complete 20c of such income in excess of \$40 a week.
- (f) To a married person under section 54A \$58.96 a week, diminished by 8c for every complete 20c of the total weekly income of the beneficiary in excess of \$25 a week but not in excess of \$40 a week, and by 16c for every complete 20c of such income in excess of \$40 a week:

Provided that for the purposes of paragraphs (a) to (e) of this clause, if the beneficiary has the care of a dependent child or children, the rate of benefit specified in this Schedule may, in the discretion of the Commission, be increased by a child supplement not exceeding the appropriate rate specified in the Fourteenth Schedule to this Act.

FIFTH SCHEDULE—*continued*
 “EIGHTH SCHEDULE—*continued*

Provided also that the rates specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this clause shall be reduced by the amount of any family benefit payable under Part I of this Act in respect of the beneficiary.

2. Maximum increase in respect of a housekeeper \$47.17 a week.

“NINTH SCHEDULE

Section 59

MAXIMUM RATES OF UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

1. (a) To an unmarried beneficiary under the age of 20 years without dependants \$53.83 a week.
 (b) To any other unmarried beneficiary \$70.75 a week.
 (c) To a married beneficiary \$58.96 a week, increased by \$58.96 a week in respect of his or her spouse.
2. Maximum increase in respect of a housekeeper \$47.17 a week:

Provided that, if the beneficiary has the care of a dependent child or children, the rate of benefit specified in this Schedule may, in the discretion of the Commission, be increased by a child supplement not exceeding the appropriate rate specified in the Fourteenth Schedule to this Act.

“TENTH SCHEDULE

Section 66

SPECIAL INCOME EXEMPTION IN RESPECT OF SICK BENEFITS FROM FRIENDLY OR LIKE SOCIETY (NATIONAL SUPERANNUATION PAYABLE UNDER SECTION 16 OF THIS ACT, INVALIDS', WIDOWS', DOMESTIC PURPOSES, AND SICKNESS BENEFITS ONLY)

Maximum rate \$2 a week in the case of a sickness benefit, and \$104 a year in any other case.

“TWELFTH SCHEDULE

Section 69

MAXIMUM INCREASE IN RATE OF BENEFIT PAYABLE TO PARENT OF DECEASED MEMBER OF FORCES OR MERCANTILE MARINE

Maximum rate \$1 a week.

FIFTH SCHEDULE—*continued*

Section 61A

"FOURTEENTH SCHEDULE

CHILD SUPPLEMENTS

1. To any person receiving an emergency benefit payable otherwise than by weekly instalments, or a widow's, domestic purposes, or invalid's benefit—
 - (a) At the rate payable to an unmarried beneficiary—
 - (i) On account of first or only dependent child \$2,140.84 a year.
 - (ii) On account of each additional dependent child after the first \$260 a year.
 - (b) At the rate payable to a married beneficiary on account of each dependent child. \$260 a year.
 2. To any person receiving an emergency benefit payable by weekly instalments, or a sickness or unemployment benefit—
 - (a) At the rate payable to an unmarried beneficiary—
 - (i) On account of first or only dependent child \$41.17 a week.
 - (ii) On account of each additional dependent child after the first \$5 a week.
 - (b) At the rate payable to a married beneficiary—on account of each dependent child \$5 a week.
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FIFTH SCHEDULE—*continued*

"SIXTEENTH SCHEDULE

Sections 27G, 27G, 27H

RATES OF DOMESTIC PURPOSES BENEFITS

1. To a beneficiary without dependent children \$3,679 a year, diminished by 40c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$1,300 a year but not in excess of \$2,080 a year, and by 80c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$2,080 a year.
2. To a beneficiary with 1 or more dependent children \$3,679 a year, increased, in the discretion of the Commission, by a child supplement not exceeding the appropriate amount specified in the Fourteenth Schedule to this Act, and diminished by 40c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$1,300 a year but not in excess of \$2,080 a year, and by 80c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$2,080 a year:

Provided that in computing for the purposes of this clause the income of a solo parent the Commission may, in its discretion, disregard as income some or all of that part of his or her personal earnings (not exceeding \$20 a week) used to meet the cost of placing a dependent child or children of the beneficiary in a day care centre registered under the Child Care Centre Regulations 1960, or in any other day care facility approved by the Commission for the purpose.

FIFTH SCHEDULE—*continued*

“SEVENTEENTH SCHEDULE

Sections 27G, 27H

RATES OF DOMESTIC PURPOSES BENEFITS

1. To an unmarried beneficiary under the age of 18 years \$2,799.16 a year, diminished by 40c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$1,300 a year but not in excess of \$2,080 a year, and by 80c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$2,080 a year.
2. To any other unmarried beneficiary \$3,679 a year, diminished by 40c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$1,300 a year but not in excess of \$2,080 a year, and by 80c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary in excess of \$2,080 a year.
3. To a married beneficiary whose wife or husband is granted, in her or his own right, a benefit (other than national superannuation) under Part I of this Act, or an economic pension, war veteran's allowance, or war service pension under the War Pensions Act 1954 \$3,065.92 a year, diminished by 20c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary and his or her spouse in excess of \$1,300 a year but not in excess of \$2,080 a year, and by 40c for every complete \$1 of such income in excess of \$2,080 a year.
4. To any other married beneficiary \$3,065.92 a year, diminished by 40c for every complete \$1 of the total annual income of the beneficiary and the spouse of the beneficiary in excess of \$1,300 a year but not in excess of \$2,080 a year, and by 80c for every complete \$1 of such income in excess of \$2,080 a year:

Provided that, if the spouse of the beneficiary is not in receipt of national superannuation under Part I of this Act, the rate of the domestic purposes benefit payable to the beneficiary shall not be less than the aggregate of the rates of domestic purposes benefits that would be payable if the beneficiary and the spouse of the beneficiary were both entitled to receive a domestic purposes benefit, but the rate of benefit payable hereunder shall not exceed \$3,065.92 a year.”