

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**  
**AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**  
**HEALTH SERVICES ACT 1990**

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

**DETERMINATION OF FEES AND CHARGES No. 111 OF 1991**

The Board of Health's Determination of Fees and Charges made pursuant to Subsection 49(2) of the Health Services Act 1990 imposes an interest charge of 20% per annum on unpaid accounts after the due date.

The Act allows for a period of 60 days to elapse, from the date an account is raised to the due date, before an interest charge becomes applicable. The 60 days, between the date of issue and the due date, will cover the normal settlement period for private patients insured with a health fund. This will generally limit the application of an interest charge to uninsured private patients and accounts relating to a claim for compensation (compensable accounts).

It is expected that the charging of interest would encourage early settlement of accounts and reduce the number and amounts of outstanding accounts. The interest charged will be payable to the Board of Health for every month or part of a month on any unpaid overdue amount. The Board of Health's interest rate of 20% is comparative with interest charges on overdue accounts for rates, water and sewerage.

The Determination will take effect on 1 January 1992.