

1997

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL  
TERRITORY**

**HEALTH AND COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES  
(VALIDATION OF FEES AND CHARGES) BILL 1997**

**GOVERNMENT AMENDMENTS  
EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

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**Gary Humphries, MLA**

# HEALTH AND COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES (VALIDATION OF FEES AND CHARGES) BILL 1997

## Government amendments

The purpose of the Government Amendments is to put beyond doubt the validity of the collection of certain fees and charges.

**Government Amendment 2** will insert proposed clauses 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 in the Bill.

### Proposed clause 4

The purpose of the proposed clause is to put beyond doubt the collection of fees for ambulance services.

The fees have been collected since 1 July 1995 and are set out in the attached table. The fees that were collected prior to 1 July 1995 were determined in Determination No 28 of 1995 [Special Gazette No 78 of 10 April 1995] and are shown in brackets in column 2 of the table.

A new service for the transport of ambulant and wheelchair patients was introduced during 1995/96 and a fee for this service is included. This service is less labour intensive than transport in an ambulance and, accordingly, is charged for at a lesser rate.

The fees have been increased in line with increases in other government fees and charges.

**Proposed clause 5** will insert in the *Ambulance Service Levy Act 1990* a provision which will allow for fees for ambulance services to be determined by the Minister.

### Proposed clause 6

The purpose of this proposed clause is to address a deficiency in Determination No 53 of 1994. The determination, made under the *Motor Traffic Act 1936*, did not include a fee for the provision of replacement licences and registration certificates. This deficiency was corrected by Determination No 151 of 1994. The amendment will have the effect that Determination No 151 is backdated to the commencement of Determination No 53.

### Proposed clause 7

The purpose of this clause is to put beyond doubt the operation of Determination No 281 of 1996, made under the *Motor Traffic Act*, which determines various matters in relation to parking fees. The Determination was Gazetted on 3 December 1996, but was expressed to commence

operation on 25 November 1996. The clause will deem the Motor Traffic Act to have allowed for this.

**Proposed clause 8**

The purpose of this clause is to validate the collection of the road rescue fee during the period 1 January 1997 to 20 February 1997. During that period the amendment to the Motor Traffic Act that provided for the fee had not commenced. The clause will deem the amendment to have commenced on 1 January 1997.

**Proposed clause 9**

The purpose of this clause is to validate the collection of fees for permits and renewals of permits under the *Roads and Public Places Act 1937*. Provision for the permits was included in the Act in 1976. Fees for the permits were to be fixed by regulation. No regulation was made until 10 February 1997. Prior to that day various arrangements for the collection of fees had been made. The amendment will deem the Act to have included a provision allowing fees to be determined. It will also deem any fee that was collected to have been determined.

**Government Amendments 1 and 3** are consequential on Government Amendment 2.

## AMBULANCE SERVICE FEES AND CHARGES FOR 95/96 AND 96/97

Ambulance Fees	1995/96	1996/97
1. Where on the provision of the ambulance service for a person:		
a) the distance necessarily travelled by the ambulance from its station and in returning to its station exceeds 16 kilometres	\$180.00 (\$175.00) per service plus \$5.10 for every kilometre exceeding 16 kilometres	\$185.00 per service plus \$5.25 for every kilometre exceeding 16 kilometres
b) in any other case	\$180.00 (\$175.00) per service	\$185.00 per service
c) transport of ambulant and wheel chair patients by the Clinic Transport service	\$139.00 (new service) per service plus \$3.60 for every kilometre exceeding 16 kilometres	\$143.00 per service plus \$3.70 for every kilometre exceeding 16 kilometres
2. Where 3 or more persons are transported together in an ambulance	The amount payable by each person is equal to three quarters of the amount that would otherwise be payable under this determination	The amount payable by each person is equal to three quarters of the amount that would otherwise be payable under this determination
3. Where the ambulance vehicle is made available at the request of a person or organisation conducting a sporting event or other public function and:		
a) the vehicle is so made available for 4 hours or less	\$370.00 (\$358.00) per service	\$382.00 per service
b) the vehicle is made available for more than 4 hours.	The aggregate of \$370 (\$358.00) per service and an amount calculated at the rate of \$93.00 (\$90.00) for each hour or part of an hour by which the period during which the vehicle is so made available exceeds 4 hours	The aggregate of \$382.00 per service and an amount calculated at the rate of \$96.00 for each hour or part of an hour by which the period during which the vehicle is so made available exceeds 4 hours