

2022-2023-2024

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**VETERANS' ENTITLEMENTS, TREATMENT AND SUPPORT
(SIMPLIFICATION AND HARMONISATION) BILL 2024**

**CORRECTION TO THE
EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

KEY FEATURES OF THE BILL

Page 5, paragraph 6 – substitute - As a general principle, permanent impairment compensation under Chapter 4, Part 2, of the MRCA is calculated using a whole-of-person assessment methodology, with impairment ratings for all of the person's conditions combined using a prescribed formula, rather than each condition being assessed and compensated individually. From the commencement date of the single ongoing Act changes, this same assessment methodology will also apply to veterans whose conditions have previously been accepted under the VEA and/or the DRCA.

Page 5, paragraph 7 – substitute - From commencement, veterans with VEA and/or DRCA conditions can establish their access to certain benefits only after acceptance of liability for a new medical condition under the MRCA, or where there has been a deterioration in the person's impairment that constitutes at least five impairment points. These benefits include automatic issue of a Gold Card at 60 impairment points and additional compensation under section 80.

SCHEDULE 4

Page 80, item 23, line 14 – omit 'a person nominated by the Chief of the Defence Force', and substitute with 'a person nominated by the Defence Minister', to correct an error in the explanatory memorandum which suggests that a commissioner to the Repatriation Commission would be nominated by the Chief of the Defence Force.

(Circulated by authority of the Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Minister for Defence Personnel, the Honourable Matthew James Keogh MP)