

2013-2014

The Parliament of the
Commonwealth of Australia

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Presented and read a first time

Business Services Wage Assessment Tool Payment Scheme Bill 2014

No. , 2014

(Social Services)

**A Bill for an Act to establish a scheme to make
payments in relation to use of the Business Services
Wage Assessment Tool, and for related purposes**

Contents

Part 1—Preliminary	1
1 Short title	1
2 Commencement	2
3 Simplified outline of this Act.....	2
4 Definitions	3
Part 2—Key elements of BSWAT payment scheme	6
5 Simplified outline of this Part	6
6 Eligibility	6
7 Definition of <i>intellectual impairment</i>	7
8 Payment amount	7
9 Effect on representative proceedings	8
10 Effect on certain claims	9
11 Evidence of eligibility.....	10
Part 3—How to obtain a payment under the BSWAT payment scheme	11
Division 1—Simplified outline of this Part	11
12 Simplified outline of this Part	11
Division 2—Registration and application	13
13 Registration.....	13
14 When a person cannot be included on the register.....	13
15 Application	13
16 When a person cannot make an application.....	14
Division 3—Determinations, offers and refusals	15
17 Determination of application	15
18 Certain applications must not be determined.....	15
19 Offer.....	16
20 Refusal.....	17
21 Certain circumstances in which offers and refusals cannot be given	18
22 Extensions.....	19
Division 4—Internal review	20
23 Internal review at Secretary’s initiative	20
24 Internal review on application	20
25 Withdrawal of application for internal review	21

Division 5—External review	22
26 Application for external review	22
27 Appointing external reviewer	22
28 External review	23
29 Material that may be considered by external reviewer	23
30 External reviewer may request Secretary to seek further information	25
31 Withdrawal of application for external review	25
32 Notice of decision on external review.....	26
Division 6—Determinations made on a review	27
33 Substituting determinations on a review	27
34 Effect of review on previous offer or refusal.....	28
Division 7—Accepting an offer	29
35 Accepting an offer	29
36 Legal advice certificate	29
37 Financial counselling certificate	29
38 Effective acceptance	30
39 Notice to Federal Court.....	30
40 Payment of amount	31
41 Declining an offer	31
Part 4—Nominees	32
Division 1—Introduction	32
42 Simplified outline of this Part	32
43 Definition of <i>participant</i>	32
44 Act that may be done	32
Division 2—Functions and responsibilities of nominee	33
45 Actions on behalf of participant.....	33
46 Duties of nominee to participant.....	33
47 Giving of notices to nominee.....	34
48 Compliance by nominee	35
49 Nominee to inform Secretary of matters affecting ability to act as nominee.....	36
Division 3—Appointment and cancellation or suspension of appointment	37
50 Appointment of nominee	37
51 Provisions relating to appointments.....	37
52 Circumstances in which the Secretary must cancel appointment of nominees.....	38

53	General circumstances in which Secretary may cancel or suspend appointment of nominees	39
54	Suspension etc. of appointment of nominees in cases of physical, mental or financial harm.....	40
55	Other matters relating to cancellation or suspension of appointment	42
56	Rules may prescribe requirements etc.	42
57	Secretary's powers of revocation.....	42
Division 4—Review of certain decisions about nominees		43
58	Review of certain decisions about nominees	43
59	Application for review	43
60	Withdrawal of application	44
61	Review of decisions following application under section 59.....	44
62	Notice and date of effect.....	44
Division 5—Other matters relating to nominees		46
63	Secretary's powers to give notices to participant.....	46
64	Notification of nominee where notice is given to participant	46
65	Protection of participant against liability for actions of nominee	46
66	Protection of nominee against criminal liability	46
Part 5—Administration		47
Division 1—Introduction		47
67	Simplified outline of this Part	47
Division 2—Information gathering		48
68	Further information from applicant	48
69	General power to obtain information	48
70	Power to obtain information from a person who owes a debt to the Commonwealth.....	49
71	Obtaining information about a person who owes a debt to the Commonwealth.....	49
72	Written notice	50
73	Offence	50
74	Obligations not affected by State or Territory laws	51
Division 3—Privacy		52
75	Protection of information.....	52
76	Offence—unauthorised access to protected information	52
77	Offence—unauthorised use or disclosure of protected information	52
78	Offence—soliciting disclosure of protected information.....	53

79	Offence—offering to supply protected information	53
80	Protection of certain documents etc. from production to court etc.....	54
81	Disclosure of information by Secretary	54
82	Rules for exercise of Secretary’s disclosure powers.....	55
83	Part does not affect the operation of the <i>Freedom of Information Act 1982</i>	55
Division 4—Debt recovery		56
84	Debts due to the Commonwealth	56
85	Joint and several liability for debts arising because of false and misleading statements	57
86	Legal proceedings	57
87	Arrangement for payment of debt.....	57
88	Recovery of amounts from financial institutions	58
89	Overseas application of debts	59
Division 5—Non-recovery of debts		60
90	Secretary may write off debt.....	60
91	Power to waive Commonwealth’s right to recover debt.....	61
92	Waiver of debt arising from error	61
93	Waiver of small debt.....	61
94	Waiver in relation to settlements	62
95	Waiver in special circumstances	62
Part 6—Miscellaneous		64
96	Simplified outline of this Part	64
97	Effect of person’s death	64
98	No admissions.....	64
99	Standing appropriation.....	64
100	Delegation.....	65
101	Approved forms	65
102	Rules	65

1 **A Bill for an Act to establish a scheme to make**
2 **payments in relation to use of the Business Services**
3 **Wage Assessment Tool, and for related purposes**

4 The Parliament of Australia enacts:

5 **Part 1—Preliminary**
6

7 **1 Short title**

8 This Act may be cited as the *Business Services Wage Assessment*
9 *Tool Payment Scheme Act 2014*.

Section 2

1 **2 Commencement**

2 This Act commences on the day after this Act receives the Royal
3 Assent.

4 **3 Simplified outline of this Act**

5 This Act establishes the BSWAT payment scheme, which is a
6 scheme for making payments in relation to use of the Business
7 Services Wage Assessment Tool.

8 A person must make an application before 1 December 2015 if the
9 person wants a payment under the BSWAT payment scheme.
10 Applications can only be made on or after 1 May 2015 by persons
11 already registered for the scheme.

12 The Secretary must determine an application, by making an offer
13 to make a payment to the person (if satisfied the person is eligible
14 for the scheme), or by refusing the application (if satisfied the
15 person is not eligible, or if the payment amount is nil).

16 A person who is not satisfied with the Secretary's determination
17 may request a review of it, and this might result in a change to the
18 determination and a new offer or refusal.

19 A person may accept an offer made to the person, or not, as the
20 person wishes.

21 If the person accepts the offer:

- 22 (a) the Secretary will make the payment to the person; and
23 (b) by force of this Act, the person will cease to have certain
24 legal rights.

25 If the person does not accept the offer, the Secretary will not make
26 the payment to the person and the legal rights that would cease on
27 acceptance continue unchanged.

Section 4

Offers will be made before 1 September 2016. While there might be some new offers after this date arising from reviews, all acceptances must be lodged by 31 December 2016.

Nominees appointed by the Secretary, at the request of a person or on the Secretary's own initiative, may act for a person in relation to the scheme.

4 Definitions

In this Act:

acceptance period has the meaning given by paragraph 19(2)(e).

actual wage has the meaning given by subsection 8(5).

alternative amount: there is an ***alternative amount*** for a person if:

- (a) the person has accepted an amount of money, otherwise than under this Act, in settlement of a claim made in relation to a matter referred to in subsection 10(2); or
- (b) an amount of money is payable to the person in accordance with a court order that is in effect in connection with a claim made in relation to a matter referred to in subsection 10(2).

approved form means a form approved under section 101.

Australian Disability Enterprise: an organisation is an ***Australian Disability Enterprise*** in respect of a day if:

- (a) the organisation received funding in respect of the day under the program known as the Disability Employment Assistance Program, for the purposes of providing employment support to persons with disability; and
- (b) the funding was under the *Disability Services Act 1986*.

BSWAT means the Business Services Wage Assessment Tool referred to in subparagraph 14.4(b)(ii) of the Supported Employment Services Award 2010 as in force on 1 January 2010, or any earlier version of that Tool.

Section 4

- 1 **BSWAT assessment** means an assessment conducted using the
2 BSWAT.
- 3 **BSWAT payment scheme** means the scheme established by this
4 Act.
- 5 **centrelink program** has the same meaning as in the *Human*
6 *Services (Centrelink) Act 1997*.
- 7 **effective acceptance** has the meaning given by section 38.
- 8 **eligible day** has the meaning given by subsection 6(2).
- 9 **external reviewer** has the meaning given by subsection 27(1).
- 10 **Federal Court** means the Federal Court of Australia.
- 11 **finally determined** has the meaning given by subsection 18(3).
- 12 **financial counsellor** has the meaning given by subsection 37(2).
- 13 **financial institution** has the meaning given by subsection 88(5).
- 14 **group member** has the same meaning as in Part IVA of the *Federal*
15 *Court of Australia Act 1976*.
- 16 **intellectual impairment** has the meaning given by section 7.
- 17 **legal practitioner** means a person who:
18 (a) is enrolled as a legal practitioner of the High Court, of
19 another federal court or of the Supreme Court of a State or
20 Territory; and
21 (b) holds a practising certificate (however described).
- 22 **medicare program** has the same meaning as in the *Human Services*
23 *(Medicare) Act 1973*.
- 24 **nominee** means a person appointed as a nominee of a participant
25 under section 50.
- 26 **officer** means an APS employee in the Department.
- 27 **participant** has the meaning given by section 43.

Section 4

- 1 **payment amount** has the meaning given by subsection 8(1).
- 2 **productivity-scored wage** has the meaning given by
- 3 subsection 8(5).
- 4 **protected information** means information about a person:
- 5 (a) that was obtained for the purposes of this Act; and
- 6 (b) that is or was held in the records of the Department.
- 7 **register** means the register established for the purposes of
- 8 section 13.
- 9 **relevant representative proceeding** has the meaning given by
- 10 subsection 9(4).
- 11 **representative party** has the same meaning as in Part IVA of the
- 12 *Federal Court of Australia Act 1976*.
- 13 **representative proceeding** has the same meaning as in Part IVA of
- 14 the *Federal Court of Australia Act 1976*.
- 15 **rules** means the rules made under section 102.
- 16 **Secretary** means the Secretary of the Department.

Section 5

Part 2—Key elements of BSWAT payment scheme

5 Simplified outline of this Part

The following key elements of the BSWAT payment scheme are set out in this Part:

- (a) who is eligible to be offered a payment;
- (b) how much will be offered to an eligible person;
- (c) the legal consequences if the person accepts the offer.

Other important elements of the scheme (such as the need to register and apply for a payment under the scheme before the deadlines) are set out in Part 3.

6 Eligibility

Eligibility

- (1) A person is eligible for the BSWAT payment scheme if the person meets the conditions in subsections (2), (3) and (4).

Eligible day

- (2) The person meets the condition in this subsection if there is at least one day for the person in the period starting on 1 January 2004 and ending on 28 May 2014 in respect of which:
- (a) the person had an intellectual impairment; and
 - (b) the person was employed by an Australian Disability Enterprise; and
 - (c) the person was provided with employment support by the Australian Disability Enterprise; and
 - (d) either:
 - (i) the person was paid a training wage while waiting for a BSWAT assessment to be completed; or

Section 7

- (ii) the minimum wage payable to the person was worked out using a BSWAT assessment of the person (for this purpose, it does not matter if the person was actually paid a higher wage).

Any such day is an *eligible day* for the person.

Ongoing daily support in the workplace

- (3) The person meets the condition in this subsection if the person required ongoing daily support in the workplace in order to maintain the person's employment in the Australian Disability Enterprise.

No alternative amount

- (4) The person meets the condition in this subsection if there is no alternative amount for the person.

7 Definition of *intellectual impairment*

A person has an *intellectual impairment* if:

- (a) the person has at least one of the following impairments:
 - (i) an intellectual disability;
 - (ii) autism spectrum disorder;
 - (iii) dementia;
 - (iv) impaired intellectual functioning as a consequence of an acquired brain injury; and
- (b) any conditions prescribed by the rules are satisfied.

8 Payment amount

- (1) The *payment amount* for a person is the amount worked out for the person by a method prescribed by the rules.
- (2) The rules may prescribe different methods for different circumstances.
- (3) In making rules for the purposes of this section, the Minister must have regard to the following principles:

Section 9

- 1 (a) the amount a person should receive, if the person accepts an
2 offer, should broadly reflect the amount that is 50% of the
3 excess (if any) of a productivity-scored wage over an actual
4 wage;
5 (b) to ensure that the person retains that amount after tax, the
6 amount should be increased to take account of expected tax;
7 (c) the amount should be nil if a person's productivity-scored
8 wage is the same or less than the person's actual wage.
- 9 (4) Despite subsection (3), the rules may have the following effect:
10 (a) if the amount worked out for a person is less than \$1—that
11 the payment amount for the person is nil;
12 (b) if the amount worked out for the person is at least \$1 but less
13 than \$100—that the amount the person should retain after tax
14 is \$100.
- 15 (5) In this Act:
16 ***actual wage*** means a wage, worked out in accordance with the
17 rules, that a person was paid in respect of an eligible day.
18 ***productivity-scored wage*** means a wage, worked out in accordance
19 with the rules, that a person could reasonably have been expected
20 to have been paid in respect of an eligible day, had the productivity
21 component of a BSWAT assessment comprised the whole of the
22 BSWAT assessment.

9 Effect on representative proceedings

- 24 (1) If:
25 (a) a person lodges an effective acceptance; and
26 (b) immediately before lodging the acceptance, the person was a
27 group member in relation to a relevant representative
28 proceeding;
29 then, at the time the acceptance is lodged and by force of this
30 section, the person ceases to be a group member in relation to the
31 relevant representative proceeding.
- 32 (2) Subsection (1) has effect despite the provisions of Part IVA of the
33 *Federal Court of Australia Act 1976*. In particular, a group member

Section 10

does not need to opt out of the proceeding in accordance with section 33J of that Act in order to cease to be a group member.

(3) For the purposes of section 33F of the *Federal Court of Australia Act 1976*, the lodging of an effective acceptance by a person or the doing of any other act under this Act or the rules does not constitute the taking of a step in a representative proceeding or conducting part of the proceeding.

(4) Any of the following is a ***relevant representative proceeding***:

(a) the representative proceeding commenced by originating application in the Federal Court on 20 December 2013 as proceeding number VID 1367 of 2013;

(b) any other representative proceeding in the Federal Court:

(i) in which damages or compensation are claimed in connection with the use of a BSWAT assessment to work out a minimum wage payable to a person; or

(ii) in relation to which a person may be a group member on the same, or substantially the same, basis as the conditions in section 6;

(c) any appeal, application for leave to appeal or application for special leave to appeal from any judgment in a proceeding referred to in paragraph (a) or (b);

(d) any appeal from any judgment in an appeal referred to in paragraph (c).

10 Effect on certain claims

(1) If a person lodges an effective acceptance, then, at the time the person lodges the acceptance and by force of this section:

(a) the person releases and forever discharges the Commonwealth, each Australian Disability Enterprise and all other persons from all liability in relation to any matter referred to in subsection (2); and

(b) the person cannot, whether as an individual, a representative party or a member of a group, bring or continue any claim against the Commonwealth or any other person in relation to any matter referred to in subsection (2).

Section 11

- 1 (2) The matters are the following, to the extent to which they relate to
2 the use of a BSWAT assessment to work out a minimum wage
3 payable to a person:
4 (a) unlawful discrimination;
5 (b) a contravention or breach of, or failure to comply with, a law,
6 whether written or unwritten, of the Commonwealth, a State
7 or a Territory;
8 (c) any other conduct or failure on the part of the
9 Commonwealth, an Australian Disability Enterprise or any
10 other person, that might give rise to a liability to the person.

11 Evidence of eligibility

- 12 The rules may prescribe matters relating to the evidence needed to
13 do either or both of the following:
14 (a) establish a person's eligibility under section 6;
15 (b) work out the amount of the payment to be offered to a
16 person.

**Part 3—How to obtain a payment under the
BSWAT payment scheme**

Division 1—Simplified outline of this Part

12 Simplified outline of this Part

A person who wants a payment under the BSWAT payment scheme must make an application before 1 December 2015. Applications can only be made on or after 1 May 2015 by persons already registered for the scheme.

If a person makes an application before 1 December 2015, the Secretary must determine the application by deciding whether the person is eligible for the scheme, and if so, what amount (if any) to offer the person.

The Secretary must notify the person of the Secretary's determination, either by:

- (a) offering to make a payment to the person; or
- (b) refusing the person's application if satisfied that the person is not eligible for the scheme or that the payment amount for the person is nil.

The offer or refusal must include certain information, including information about the person's right to apply for a review of the determination if the person is not satisfied with it.

A person may apply to the Secretary for review, and if not satisfied with the outcome of that review, may apply for review by an external reviewer. An offer or refusal ceases to be current when a person applies for review, and a new offer or refusal will follow from the review.

If a person decides to accept an offer, the person must lodge an effective acceptance (an acceptance that complies with this Act). If

Part 3 How to obtain a payment under the BSWAT payment scheme

Division 1 Simplified outline of this Part

Section 12

1	an acceptance is effective, the Secretary will make the payment to
2	a bank account nominated by the person.
3	The BSWAT payment scheme only operates until the end of 2016.
4	Offers cannot be made on or after 1 September 2016, except as a
5	consequence of a review of an earlier determination, and no offers
6	at all can be made on or after 1 December 2016. A person who
7	wants to accept an offer must do so on or before 31 December
8	2016.

Division 2—Registration and application

13 Registration

- (1) The Secretary must establish a register for the purposes of this section.
- (2) If a person contacts the Secretary before 1 May 2015 to register for the BSWAT payment scheme, the Secretary must include the person on the register by adding to it the following details:
 - (a) the person's name and contact details;
 - (b) any other details the Secretary considers appropriate.
- (3) The contact may be made by any of the following means:
 - (a) telephone;
 - (b) email or other electronic means;
 - (c) any other means approved by the Secretary.
- (4) A person who makes an application for the BSWAT payment scheme before 1 May 2015 is taken to be on the register.

14 When a person cannot be included on the register

- (1) The Secretary cannot include on the register a person for whom there is an alternative amount.
- (2) The Secretary cannot include on the register a person who first contacts the Secretary to register for the BSWAT payment scheme on or after 1 May 2015.
- (3) This section has effect despite anything else in this Act.

15 Application

- (1) A person may make an application for the BSWAT payment scheme during the period:
 - (a) starting on 1 July 2014; and
 - (b) ending on 30 November 2015.

Part 3 How to obtain a payment under the BSWAT payment scheme

Division 2 Registration and application

Section 16

- 1 (2) The application must be:
2 (a) in an approved form; and
3 (b) lodged in a manner prescribed by the rules; and
4 (c) made before 1 December 2015.
- 5 (3) The application must be accompanied by the information and
6 documents prescribed by the rules.

7 **16 When a person cannot make an application**

- 8 (1) A person cannot make an application if there is an alternative
9 amount for the person.
- 10 (2) A person who is not on the register cannot make an application on
11 or after 1 May 2015.
- 12 (3) An application cannot be made on or after 1 December 2015.
- 13 (4) This section has effect despite anything else in this Act.

Division 3—Determinations, offers and refusals

17 Determination of application

- (1) The Secretary must determine an application in accordance with this section.
- (2) The Secretary must:
 - (a) if satisfied that an applicant is eligible for the BSWAT payment scheme—make a determination that the applicant is eligible for the scheme; and
 - (b) if satisfied that an applicant is not eligible for the BSWAT payment scheme—make a determination that the applicant is not eligible for the scheme.
- (3) If a determination is made that an applicant is eligible for the BSWAT payment scheme, the Secretary must make a determination of the payment amount for the person.
- (4) Despite subsection (1), if the Secretary makes a request or requirement for further information or a document under section 68 or 69, a determination need not be made until the further information is given or the document produced.

18 Certain applications must not be determined

- (1) The Secretary must not determine an application made by a person if:
 - (a) the person has already lodged an effective acceptance; or
 - (b) the person has made an application (the *earlier application*) that has not been finally determined; or
 - (c) there is an alternative amount for the person.
- (2) The Secretary must not determine an application made on or after 1 December 2015.
- (3) An earlier application made by a person has been *finally determined* if:

Section 19

- 1 (a) the person is taken to have declined an offer made in
2 response to the application (see section 41); or
3 (b) the person has been given a refusal and the period for
4 applying for a review of a determination included in the
5 refusal has ended without the person making such an
6 application; or
7 (c) the person has been given a refusal that includes a
8 determination made by an external reviewer.

- 9 (4) This section has effect despite anything else in this Act.

10 **19 Offer**

- 11 (1) If a determination is made under subsection 17(3) of a payment
12 amount for an applicant that is more than nil, or such a
13 determination is affirmed under subsection 24(6) or 28(1), the
14 Secretary must, by written notice to the applicant, make an offer to
15 pay the payment amount to the applicant.
- 16 (2) The offer must do the following:
- 17 (a) specify the date of the offer;
- 18 (b) include the determination that the applicant is eligible for the
19 BSWAT payment scheme and explain the reasons for the
20 determination;
- 21 (c) include the determination of the payment amount and explain
22 the reasons for the determination;
- 23 (d) if the determination of the payment amount has been
24 affirmed under subsection 24(6) or 28(1)—include the
25 affirmation and the reasons for the affirmation;
- 26 (e) specify a period (the ***acceptance period***) of at least 14 days,
27 starting on the date of the offer, within which the offer can be
28 accepted;
- 29 (f) explain how to accept the offer, should the applicant decide
30 to do so (including the need to first obtain a legal advice
31 certificate that complies with section 36 and a financial
32 counselling certificate that complies with section 37);
- 33 (g) inform the applicant that the applicant does not have to
34 accept the offer and explain that by doing nothing, the offer
35 is taken to be declined at the end of the acceptance period;
-

Section 20

- 1 (h) unless subsection (3) applies—inform the applicant that the
2 applicant may, before the end of the acceptance period,
3 request an extension of that period and explain how to make
4 that request;
- 5 (i) unless subsection (3) applies—inform the applicant that the
6 applicant may, before the end of the acceptance period, apply
7 for a review of the payment amount and explain how to make
8 that application and, broadly, what the review would involve;
- 9 (j) draw the applicant's attention to sections 9 and 10.
- 10 (3) The offer must not inform the applicant as required by
11 paragraphs (2)(h) and (i) if the offer includes a determination made
12 by an external reviewer:
- 13 (a) of a payment amount for the applicant that is more than nil;
14 or
- 15 (b) affirming a determination made by the Secretary of a
16 payment amount.
- 17 (4) Subsection (2) does not limit the matters that may be dealt with by
18 the offer.

19 **20 Refusal**

- 20 (1) If:
- 21 (a) a determination is made under paragraph 17(2)(b) that an
22 applicant is not eligible for the BSWAT payment scheme; or
- 23 (b) a determination is made under subsection 17(3) that the
24 payment amount for an applicant is nil; or
- 25 (c) a determination referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) is affirmed
26 under subsection 24(6) or 28(1);
- 27 the Secretary must, by written notice to the applicant, refuse the
28 application.
- 29 (2) The refusal must do the following:
- 30 (a) specify the date of the refusal;
- 31 (b) include the determination under section 17 and explain the
32 reasons for the determination;

Section 21

- 1 (c) if the determination under section 17 has been affirmed under
2 subsection 24(6) or 28(1)—include the affirmation and the
3 reasons for the affirmation;
4 (d) unless subsection (3) applies—inform the applicant that the
5 applicant may, within the 21 day period starting on the date
6 of the refusal, apply for a review of the determination and
7 explain how to make that application and, broadly, what the
8 review would involve;
9 (e) unless subsection (3) applies—inform the applicant that the
10 applicant may request an extension of the 21 day period
11 referred to in paragraph (d) and explain how to make that
12 request.
- 13 (3) The refusal must not inform the applicant as required by
14 paragraphs (2)(d) and (e) if the refusal includes a determination
15 made by an external reviewer:
16 (a) that the applicant is not eligible for the BSWAT payment
17 scheme; or
18 (b) affirming a determination made by the Secretary.
- 19 (4) Subsection (2) does not limit the matters that may be dealt with by
20 the refusal.

21 Certain circumstances in which offers and refusals cannot be given

- 23 (1) The Secretary must not make an offer or give a refusal to a person
24 whose application has been determined if there is an alternative
25 amount for the person.
- 26 (2) The Secretary must not make an offer or give a refusal to a person
27 on or after 1 September 2016, except as a consequence of a review
28 of a determination made before that day.
- 29 (3) The Secretary must not make an offer or give a refusal to a person
30 on or after 1 December 2016.
- 31 (4) Subsections (2) and (3) prevent the Secretary from making an offer
32 or giving a refusal after a date specified in those subsections even
33 if, on the specified date, the Secretary is waiting for further

Section 22

1 information to be provided in accordance with a request under
2 section 68 or a requirement under section 69.

3 (5) This section has effect despite anything else in this Act.

4 **22 Extensions**

5 (1) The Secretary may, on request made in accordance with the rules
6 (if any), extend, by no more than 28 days:

7 (a) the acceptance period for an offer; or

8 (b) the 21 day period referred to in subsection 24(3) or 26(3) for
9 applying for a review in relation to a refusal.

10 If the Secretary does so, the period is the period as extended by the
11 Secretary.

12 (2) A period extended under paragraph (1)(a) must end on or before
13 31 December 2016.

14 (3) A period extended under paragraph (1)(b) must end on or before
15 30 November 2016.

16 (4) A request to extend a period must be received before the end of the
17 original period.

18 (5) The Secretary may only extend a period once.

Section 23

Division 4—Internal review

23 Internal review at Secretary's initiative

- (1) The Secretary may, on his or her own initiative, review a determination made under section 17 if the Secretary is satisfied that there is enough reason to do so.
- (2) The Secretary cannot review a determination:
 - (a) after an application has been made for external review of the determination under Division 5; or
 - (b) after a person has accepted the offer in which the determination was included; or
 - (c) that is made or affirmed in an external review under Division 5.
- (3) On review of a determination, the Secretary may:
 - (a) affirm the determination; or
 - (b) set aside the determination and substitute a new determination in accordance with Division 6.

24 Internal review on application

- (1) A person may apply to the Secretary to review a determination made for the person under section 17, other than a determination that was made or affirmed under this Division or Division 5.
- (2) If the determination was included in an offer, the application must be made:
 - (a) before the end of the acceptance period; and
 - (b) before the offer is accepted.
- (3) If the determination was included in a refusal, the application must be made before the end of the 21 day period starting on the date of the refusal, or that period as extended under section 22.
- (4) The application must be made by:
 - (a) sending or delivering a written application to the Secretary in accordance with the rules (if any); or

Section 25

- 1 (b) making an oral application, in person or by telephone or other
- 2 means, to the Secretary in accordance with the rules (if any).
- 3 (5) If a person makes an oral application in accordance with
- 4 paragraph (4)(b), the person receiving the oral application must:
- 5 (a) make a written record of the details of the application; and
- 6 (b) note on the record the day the application is made.
- 7 (6) The Secretary must, as soon as reasonably practicable:
- 8 (a) review the determination; and
- 9 (b) either:
- 10 (i) affirm the determination; or
- 11 (ii) set aside the determination and substitute a new
- 12 determination in accordance with Division 6.

25 Withdrawal of application for internal review

- 14 (1) A person who has applied for review of a determination under
- 15 section 24 may withdraw the application at any time before a
- 16 decision is made under subsection 24(6), by:
- 17 (a) sending or delivering a written notice to the Secretary in
- 18 accordance with the rules (if any); or
- 19 (b) contacting the Secretary and withdrawing the application
- 20 orally, whether in person, by telephone or by other means in
- 21 accordance with the rules (if any).
- 22 (2) If an application is withdrawn in accordance with paragraph (1)(b),
- 23 the person receiving the oral withdrawal must make a written
- 24 record of the details of the withdrawal and note on the record the
- 25 day the withdrawal is made.
- 26 (3) If an application is withdrawn, the application is taken never to
- 27 have been made.

Section 26

Division 5—External review

26 Application for external review

- (1) A person may apply to the Secretary for external review of a determination made for the person under section 17 that is:
 - (a) made on an internal review under subsection 23(3) (internal review at Secretary's initiative); or
 - (b) a determination made or affirmed on an internal review under subsection 24(6) (internal review on application).
- (2) If the determination was included in an offer, the application must be made before:
 - (a) the end of the acceptance period; and
 - (b) the offer is accepted.
- (3) If the determination was included in a refusal, the application must be made before the end of the 21 day period starting on the date of the refusal, or that period as extended under section 22.
- (4) The application must be made by:
 - (a) sending or delivering a written application to the Secretary in accordance with the rules (if any); or
 - (b) making an oral application, in person or by telephone or other means, to the Secretary in accordance with the rules (if any).
- (5) If a person makes an oral application in accordance with paragraph (4)(b), the person receiving the oral application must:
 - (a) make a written record of the details of the application; and
 - (b) note on the record the day the application is made.

27 Appointing external reviewer

- (1) If the Secretary receives an application for external review of a determination, the Secretary must, by writing, appoint a person (the **external reviewer**) to review the determination.
- (2) A person may only be appointed under subsection (1) if:

Section 28

- 1 (a) the person has been (but is no longer) a Justice of the High
2 Court or a judge of another federal court or of a court of a
3 State or Territory; or
4 (b) the person is a legal practitioner who has been enrolled for at
5 least 10 years.
- 6 (3) If a person appointed under subsection (1) is unable to complete
7 the review of the determination, the Secretary must appoint another
8 person under that subsection to review the determination.
- 9 (4) A person appointed under subsection (1) is to be paid the
10 remuneration and allowances determined in writing by the
11 Secretary in accordance with the rules (if any).

28 External review

- 13 (1) The external reviewer must, as soon as reasonably practicable:
14 (a) review the determination; and
15 (b) either:
16 (i) affirm the determination; or
17 (ii) set aside the determination and substitute a new
18 determination in accordance with Division 6.
- 19 (2) The external reviewer must, in conducting the review, comply with
20 any requirements prescribed by the rules.

29 Material that may be considered by external reviewer

- 22 (1) In completing the review, the external review may only consider:
23 (a) a statement or document given to the external reviewer under
24 this section; and
25 (b) information or a document given to the external reviewer
26 following a request made under section 30.

Material given by Secretary at time of appointment

- 28 (2) The Secretary must, as soon as reasonably practicable after
29 appointing the external reviewer, give the reviewer:
30 (a) a written statement about the determination under review
31 that:
-

Section 29

- 1 (i) sets out the findings of fact made for the purposes of the
2 determination; and
3 (ii) refers to the evidence on which those findings were
4 based; and
5 (iii) gives the reasons for the determination; and
6 (b) the original or a copy of every document or part of a
7 document that:
8 (i) is in the possession, or under the control, of the
9 Secretary; and
10 (ii) relates to the applicant; and
11 (iii) is relevant to the review of the determination.

12 *Material given by applicant at time of application*

- 13 (3) The applicant may, within 14 days after applying for the external
14 review, give the Secretary:
15 (a) a written statement supporting the application; and
16 (b) any other document that the applicant considers relevant to
17 the review.
- 18 (4) The Secretary must give the external reviewer a copy of the
19 material referred to in subsection (3) as soon as practicable after it
20 is given to the Secretary.

21 *Additional material given by Secretary*

- 22 (5) If:
23 (a) after the material mentioned in subsection (2) or (3) is given
24 to the external reviewer, but before the completion of the
25 review, a document comes into the possession or under the
26 control of the Secretary; and
27 (b) the Secretary considers that the document or a part of the
28 document is relevant to the review; and
29 (c) a copy of the document or the part of the document has not
30 been given to the external reviewer in accordance with
31 subsection (2) or (4);
32 the Secretary must, as soon as practicable, give a copy of the
33 document or the part of the document to the external reviewer.

Section 30

- 1 (6) As soon as practicable after a statement or document is given to the
2 external reviewer as mentioned in subsection (2) or (5), the
3 Secretary must give the applicant for the external review a copy of
4 the statement or document (unless the statement or document was
5 given to the Secretary by the applicant).

6 **30 External reviewer may request Secretary to seek further**
7 **information**

- 8 (1) The external reviewer may request the Secretary to exercise the
9 Secretary's powers under section 68 or 69 if the external reviewer
10 is satisfied that a person has information, or has custody or control
11 of a document, that is relevant to the review of the determination.
- 12 (2) The Secretary must, as soon as practicable, either:
13 (a) comply with the request, if the Secretary is satisfied that it is
14 appropriate to do so, and give the information or document to
15 the external reviewer; or
16 (b) refuse the request and inform the external reviewer
17 accordingly.

18 **31 Withdrawal of application for external review**

- 19 (1) A person who has applied for review of a determination under
20 section 26 may withdraw the application at any time before a
21 decision is made under subsection 28(1), by:
22 (a) sending or delivering a written notice to the Secretary in
23 accordance with the rules (if any); or
24 (b) contacting the Secretary and withdrawing the application
25 orally, whether in person, by telephone or by other means in
26 accordance with the rules (if any).
- 27 (2) If an application is withdrawn in accordance with paragraph (1)(b),
28 the person receiving the oral withdrawal must make a written
29 record of the details of the withdrawal and note on the record the
30 day the withdrawal is made.
- 31 (3) If an application is withdrawn, the application is taken never to
32 have been made.

Section 32

1 **32 Notice of decision on external review**

2 The external reviewer must give the Secretary:

3 (a) a copy of the external reviewer's decision on the review; and

4 (b) reasons for the decision.

Division 6—Determinations made on a review

33 Substituting determinations on a review

- (1) This section applies in relation to:
- (a) an internal review conducted by the Secretary (the *reviewer*) under Division 4; or
 - (b) an external review conducted by a person (the *reviewer*) appointed under Division 5.

Review of determination involving payment amount

- (2) If, on review of a determination of a payment amount under subsection 17(3), the reviewer is satisfied that the applicant is not eligible for the BSWAT payment scheme, the reviewer must:
- (a) set aside the determinations made under paragraph 17(2)(a) and subsection 17(3) for the applicant; and
 - (b) substitute a new determination under paragraph 17(2)(b) that the applicant is not eligible for the BSWAT payment scheme.

Note: The Secretary will then be required to refuse the application for a payment under the BSWAT scheme (see section 20).

- (3) Subsection (2) does not apply if a determination has been made under paragraph 17(2)(a) for the applicant in an external review under Division 5.
- (4) To avoid doubt, the reviewer may, on review of a determination of a payment amount, determine a lower payment amount for the applicant.

Review of determination that applicant ineligible

- (5) If, on review of a determination made under paragraph 17(2)(b), the reviewer is satisfied that the applicant is eligible for the BSWAT payment scheme, the reviewer must set aside that determination and make a determination under paragraph 17(2)(a) for the applicant.

Note: The Secretary will then be required to determine a payment amount for the person under subsection 17(3).

Section 34

34 Effect of review on previous offer or refusal

- (1) If a person applies for internal review under Division 4 or external review under Division 5 of a determination made under section 17, any offer under section 19 or refusal under section 20 made as a result of the determination ceases to be current.

Note: An offer that is not current cannot be accepted (see section 38).

- (2) If the Secretary substitutes a new determination in an internal review under section 23 (internal review at Secretary's initiative), any offer under section 19 or refusal under section 20 made as a result of the determination under review ceases to be current.

Note: An offer that is not current cannot be accepted (see section 38).

- (3) If a person withdraws an application for review in accordance with section 25 or 31:

- (a) any offer or refusal that ceased to be current under subsection (1) or (2) becomes current again from the time of the withdrawal; and
- (b) for an offer—at the time of the withdrawal, the number of days remaining in the acceptance period is taken to be the number of days that remained immediately before the application was made.

Division 7—Accepting an offer

35 Accepting an offer

(1) A person who wants to accept an offer must do so in accordance with this section.

(2) The acceptance must be:

- (a) in an approved form; and
- (b) lodged in a manner prescribed by the rules; and
- (c) lodged before the end of the acceptance period for the offer.

(3) The acceptance must be accompanied by:

- (a) a legal advice certificate that complies with section 36; and
- (b) a financial counselling certificate that complies with section 37; and
- (c) an acknowledgement that the person understands the effect of accepting the offer; and
- (d) any other information or documents prescribed by the rules.

Note: A nominee may do acts, including sign acknowledgements, on the person's behalf: see section 45.

36 Legal advice certificate

A certificate complies with this section if the certificate:

- (a) is in an approved form; and
- (b) certifies, as required by the form, one or more of the matters specified in the form; and
- (c) is signed by a legal practitioner.

37 Financial counselling certificate

(1) A certificate complies with this section if the certificate:

- (a) is in the approved form; and
- (b) certifies, as required by the form, one or more of the matters specified in the form; and

Section 38

- 1 (c) is signed by a financial counsellor or by the person's
2 nominee, as applicable in relation to the matters certified.

- 3 (2) In this Act:

4 ***financial counsellor*** means a person who is a fully accredited
5 member of a State or Territory association of financial counsellors
6 prescribed by the rules.

7 **38 Effective acceptance**

8 An acceptance has effect, and is an ***effective acceptance***, only if:

- 9 (a) the person accepts the offer in accordance with section 35;
10 and
11 (b) the acceptance is lodged before 1 January 2017; and
12 (c) at the time the acceptance is lodged:
13 (i) if the offer had ceased to be current as mentioned in
14 subsection 34(1) or (2)—the offer has become current
15 again as mentioned in subsection 34(3); and
16 (ii) there is no alternative amount for the person; and
17 (iii) the person is not the representative party in a relevant
18 representative proceeding.

19 Note: If the representative party in a relevant representative proceeding first
20 withdraws as the representative party, with the leave of the Court, that
21 person could then accept an offer.

22 **39 Notice to Federal Court**

- 23 (1) The Secretary must notify the Federal Court if a person lodges an
24 effective acceptance.
25 (2) The notice must:
26 (a) be in writing; and
27 (b) be accompanied by copies of:
28 (i) the acceptance; and
29 (ii) the legal advice certificate that complies with section 36
30 and the financial counselling certificate that complies
31 with section 37.

Section 40

- 1 (3) Subsection (1) does not apply if all relevant representative
2 proceedings referred to in section 9 have been determined, settled
3 or discontinued.

4 **40 Payment of amount**

- 5 (1) If a person lodges an effective acceptance, the Secretary must pay
6 the payment amount offered to the person on the date that is
7 determined by the Secretary to be the earliest date on which it is
8 reasonably practicable for the payment to be made to the person.
- 9 (2) The amount is to be paid to the credit of a bank account nominated
10 and maintained by the person. (The account may be maintained by
11 the person alone or jointly in common with another person.)
- 12 (3) The Secretary may direct that the whole or a part of the amount is
13 to be paid to the person in a different way from that provided for
14 by subsection (2). If the Secretary gives a direction, the amount is
15 to be paid in accordance with the direction.

16 **41 Declining an offer**

- 17 If a person does not lodge an effective acceptance of an offer
18 before the end of the acceptance period for the offer, the person is
19 taken to have declined the offer.

Section 42

Part 4—Nominees

Division 1—Introduction

42 Simplified outline of this Part

The Secretary may appoint nominees to act for persons in relation to the BSWAT payment scheme. Some appointments will be made on the Secretary's own initiative, and others at the request of the person, depending on the person's circumstances. Not everyone will have a nominee.

A nominee has a duty to ascertain the person's preferences in relation to the scheme, and to act in a way that gives effect to those preferences.

43 Definition of *participant*

Any person who:

- (a) might be eligible for the BSWAT payment scheme; or
- (b) has an intellectual impairment and wants to make or has made an application under section 15;

is a *participant*.

44 Act that may be done

A reference in this Part to an act that may be done by a participant includes a reference to refraining from doing an act in order to give effect to a decision.

Division 2—Functions and responsibilities of nominee

45 Actions on behalf of participant

- (1) Any act that may be done by a participant under or for the purposes of this Act may be done by the participant's nominee, except to the extent specified in the instrument of appointment of the nominee.

Note: See section 50 for the appointment of nominees.

- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), a request or application that may be made under this Act by a participant may be made by the person's nominee on behalf of the participant.
- (3) An act done by a participant's nominee because of this section has effect for the purposes of this Act (other than this Part) as if it had been done by the participant.
- (4) If the participant's nominee was appointed on the initiative of the Secretary, the nominee may only do an act if the nominee considers that the participant is not capable of doing, or being supported to do, the act.

46 Duties of nominee to participant

- (1) It is the duty of a nominee of a participant to ascertain the preferences of the participant in relation to the BSWAT payment scheme and to act in a manner that gives effect to those preferences.
- (2) A nominee does not breach the duty imposed by subsection (1) by doing an act if, when the act is done, the nominee reasonably believes that:
- (a) the nominee has ascertained the preferences of the participant in relation to the act; and
 - (b) the doing of the act gives effect to those preferences.
- (3) A nominee does not breach the duty imposed by subsection (1) by refraining from doing an act if, at the relevant time, the nominee reasonably believes that:

Part 4 Nominees

Division 2 Functions and responsibilities of nominee

Section 47

- 1 (a) the nominee has ascertained the preferences of the participant
2 in relation to the act; and
3 (b) not doing the act gives effect to those preferences.
- 4 (4) The rules may modify the duty of a nominee under subsection (1)
5 in relation to participants who cannot formulate preferences.
- 6 (5) The rules may prescribe other duties of a nominee, including duties
7 requiring the nominee:
8 (a) to support decision-making by the participant personally; or
9 (b) to have regard to, and give appropriate weight to, the views
10 of the participant; or
11 (c) to inform the Secretary and the participant if the nominee
12 has, acquires, or is likely to acquire, any interest, pecuniary
13 or otherwise, that conflicts or could conflict with the
14 performance of the nominee's duties.

47 Giving of notices to nominee

- 15
16 (1) Any notice that the Secretary is authorised or required by this Act
17 to give to a participant must be given by the Secretary to the
18 participant's nominee.
- 19 (2) The notice:
20 (a) must, in every respect, be in the same form, and in the same
21 terms, as if it were being given to the participant; and
22 (b) may be given to the nominee personally, by post or by any
23 other means approved by the Secretary.
- 24 (3) If:
25 (a) under subsection (1), the Secretary gives a notice (the
26 **nominee notice**) to a participant's nominee; and
27 (b) the Secretary has already given, or afterwards gives, the
28 participant a notice that:
29 (i) is expressed to be given under the same provision of this
30 Act as the nominee notice; and
31 (ii) makes the same requirement of the participant as the
32 nominee notice;

1 section 48 ceases to have effect, or does not come into effect, as
2 the case requires, in relation to the nominee notice.

3 **48 Compliance by nominee**

- 4 (1) If, under section 47, a notice is given to a participant's nominee,
5 the following paragraphs have effect:
- 6 (a) for the purposes of this Act, other than this Part, the notice is
7 taken:
- 8 (i) to have been given to the participant; and
9 (ii) to have been so given on the day the notice was given to
10 the nominee;
- 11 (b) any requirement made of the person to:
- 12 (i) inform the Secretary of a matter; or
13 (ii) provide information or a document to the Secretary;
14 may be satisfied by the nominee;
- 15 (c) any act done by the nominee for the purposes of satisfying
16 such a requirement has effect, for the purposes of this Act, as
17 if it had been done by the participant;
- 18 (d) if the nominee fails to satisfy such a requirement, the
19 participant is taken, for the purposes of this Act, to have
20 failed to comply with the requirement.
- 21 (2) To avoid doubt, for the purposes of this Act, the participant is
22 taken to have complied with a requirement if:
- 23 (a) the requirement imposes an obligation on the participant to
24 inform the Secretary of a matter, or provide information or a
25 document, within a specified period; and
26 (b) the nominee does so within that period.
- 27 (3) To avoid doubt, for the purposes of this Act, the participant is
28 taken not to have complied with a requirement if:
- 29 (a) the requirement imposes an obligation on the participant to
30 inform the Secretary of a matter, or provide information or a
31 document, within a specified period; and
32 (b) the nominee does not do so within that period.

Section 49

49 Nominee to inform Secretary of matters affecting ability to act as nominee

(1) The Secretary may give a nominee of a participant a written notice that requires the nominee to inform the Secretary if:

(a) either:

- (i) an event or change of circumstances happens; or
- (ii) the nominee becomes aware that an event or change of circumstances is likely to happen; and

(b) the event or change of circumstances is likely to affect:

- (i) the ability of the nominee to act as the nominee of the participant; or
- (ii) the ability of the Secretary to give notices to the nominee under this Act; or
- (iii) the ability of the nominee to comply with notices given to the nominee by the Secretary under this Act.

(2) A notice under subsection (1) must specify:

- (a) how the nominee is to inform the Secretary; and
- (b) the period within which the nominee is to inform the Secretary, which must be a period of at least 14 days starting on whichever of the following days is applicable:
 - (i) the day on which the event or change of circumstances happens;
 - (ii) the day on which the nominee becomes aware that the event or change of circumstances is likely to happen.

(3) A notice under subsection (1) is not ineffective only because it does not comply with paragraph (2)(a).

(4) This section extends to:

- (a) acts, omissions, matters and things outside Australia, whether or not in a foreign country; and
- (b) all persons, irrespective of their nationality or citizenship.

Division 3—Appointment and cancellation or suspension of appointment

50 Appointment of nominee

- (1) The Secretary may, in writing, appoint a person to be a nominee of a participant for the purposes of this Act.

Note: The Secretary must make the appointment in accordance with section 51.

- (2) An appointment may be made:
- (a) at the request of the participant; or
 - (b) on the initiative of the Secretary.
- (3) An appointment may limit the matters in relation to which the appointee is the nominee of the participant.
- (4) An appointment may provide that it has effect for a specified term.
- (5) Without limiting the manner of specifying a term for the purposes of subsection (4), it may be specified by reference to the expiry of a specified period or the occurrence of a specified event.
- (6) To avoid doubt, the Secretary may appoint more than one person to be a nominee of a participant for the purposes of this Act.

51 Provisions relating to appointments

- (1) The Secretary must not appoint a person as a nominee of a participant under section 50 except:
- (a) with the written consent of the appointee; and
 - (b) after taking into consideration the preferences (if any) of the participant regarding the making of the appointment.
- (2) In appointing a person as a nominee of a participant under section 50, the Secretary must consider whether the person is able to comply with section 46.

Part 4 Nominees

Division 3 Appointment and cancellation or suspension of appointment

Section 52

- 1 (3) In appointing a nominee of a participant under section 50, the
2 Secretary must have regard to whether there is a person who, under
3 a law of the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory:
4 (a) has guardianship of the person; or
5 (b) is a person appointed by a court, tribunal, board or panel
6 (however described) who has power to make decisions for
7 the participant and whose responsibilities in relation to the
8 participant are relevant to the duties of a nominee.
- 9 (4) The Secretary must cause a copy of an appointment under
10 section 50 to be given to:
11 (a) the nominee; and
12 (b) the participant.
- 13 (5) The rules may prescribe:
14 (a) persons who must not be appointed as nominees; and
15 (b) criteria the Secretary is to apply or matters to which the
16 Secretary is to have regard in considering the appointment of
17 a nominee.

**52 Circumstances in which the Secretary must cancel appointment
of nominees**

At the request of a participant

- 21 (1) If:
22 (a) a person is appointed as a nominee of a participant under
23 section 50 at the request of the participant; and
24 (b) the participant requests the Secretary to cancel the
25 appointment;
26 the Secretary must, as soon as practicable, cancel the appointment
27 by written instrument.
- 28 (2) A request under paragraph (1)(b) need not be made in writing. If
29 the request is not made in writing, the Secretary must make a
30 written record of the request.

Section 53

Nominee no longer wishes to be a nominee

- (3) If:
- (a) a person is appointed as a nominee of a participant under section 50; and
 - (b) the person informs the Secretary in writing that the person no longer wishes to be a nominee under that appointment;
- the Secretary must, as soon as practicable, cancel the appointment by written instrument.

Copy of instrument of cancellation to be given

- (4) If the appointment of a person as a nominee of a participant is cancelled under this section, the Secretary must give the person and participant a copy of the instrument of cancellation.

53 General circumstances in which Secretary may cancel or suspend appointment of nominees

At the request of a participant

- (1) If:
- (a) a person is appointed as a nominee of a participant under section 50 on the initiative of the Secretary; and
 - (b) the participant requests the Secretary to cancel the appointment;
- the Secretary may, by written instrument, cancel the appointment.
- (2) A request under paragraph (1)(b) need not be made in writing. If the request is not made in writing, the Secretary must make a written record of the request.
- (3) If a request is made under paragraph (1)(b):
- (a) the Secretary must decide whether to cancel the appointment within 14 days after receiving the request; and
 - (b) if the Secretary decides not to cancel the appointment—the Secretary must give the person and participant written notice of the Secretary's decision.

Part 4 Nominees

Division 3 Appointment and cancellation or suspension of appointment

Section 54

Ability to act as a nominee affected

- (4) The Secretary may, by written instrument, suspend or cancel one or more of a nominee's appointments if:
- (a) the Secretary gives the nominee a notice under section 49; and
 - (b) in response to the notice, the nominee informs the Secretary that an event or change of circumstances has happened or is likely to happen; and
 - (c) having regard to that response, the Secretary is satisfied that it is appropriate to do so.

Failure to comply with a notice under section 49

- (5) The Secretary may, by written instrument, suspend or cancel one or more of a nominee's appointments if:
- (a) the Secretary gives the nominee a notice under section 49; and
 - (b) the nominee does not comply with a requirement specified in the notice.

Copy of instrument of cancellation or suspension to be given

- (6) If the appointment of a person as a nominee of a participant is cancelled or suspended under this section, the Secretary must give the person and participant a copy of the instrument of cancellation or suspension.

54 Suspension etc. of appointment of nominees in cases of physical, mental or financial harm

Suspension of appointment

- (1) The Secretary may, by written instrument, suspend the appointment of a person as a nominee of a participant if the Secretary reasonably believes that:
- (a) the person has caused, or is likely to cause, physical, mental or financial harm to the participant; or

- 1 (b) the person has failed to fulfil the person's duty under
2 subsection 46(1).
- 3 (2) Any financial harm that might be caused to the participant by the
4 nominee acting in a manner that gives effect to the participant's
5 preferences in relation to the BSWAT payment scheme is to be
6 disregarded for the purposes of subsection (1).
- 7 (3) If the person's appointment is suspended under subsection (1), the
8 Secretary must:
- 9 (a) give the person and participant a copy of the instrument of
10 suspension; and
- 11 (b) by written notice given to the person, request the person to
12 give the Secretary, within 28 days after the notice is given, a
13 statement setting out reasons why the person's appointment
14 should not be cancelled by the Secretary under this section.
- 15 *Cancellation of appointment following suspension*
- 16 (4) If the person gives the Secretary the statement within the 28 day
17 period, the Secretary may, by written instrument, cancel the
18 person's appointment.
- 19 (5) The Secretary must decide whether to cancel the person's
20 appointment under subsection (4) as soon as practicable after
21 receiving the statement.
- 22 (6) If the Secretary decides not to cancel the person's appointment
23 under subsection (4):
- 24 (a) the suspension of the person's appointment ends; and
25 (b) the Secretary must give the person and participant written
26 notice of the Secretary's decision.
- 27 (7) If the person does not give the Secretary the statement within the
28 28 day period, the Secretary must, by written instrument, cancel
29 the person's appointment as soon as practicable after that period
30 ends.

Part 4 Nominees

Division 3 Appointment and cancellation or suspension of appointment

Section 55

1 *Copy of instrument of cancellation to be given*

2 (8) If the person's appointment is cancelled under this section, the
3 Secretary must give the person and participant a copy of the
4 instrument of cancellation.

5 **55 Other matters relating to cancellation or suspension of**
6 **appointment**

7 (1) While a person's appointment as a nominee is suspended, the
8 appointment has no effect for the purposes of this Act.

9 (2) If a person's appointment as a nominee of a participant is
10 suspended under section 53 or 54, the Secretary may appoint
11 another person under section 50 to be the nominee of the
12 participant for a period specified in the instrument of appointment.

13 **56 Rules may prescribe requirements etc.**

14 The rules may prescribe:

- 15 (a) requirements with which the Secretary must comply relating
16 to the appointment of nominees or the cancellation or
17 suspension of the appointment of nominees; and
18 (b) criteria the Secretary is to apply or matters to which the
19 Secretary is to have regard in appointing nominees or
20 cancelling or suspending the appointment of nominees.

21 **57 Secretary's powers of revocation**

22 Nothing in this Part is an expression of a contrary intention for the
23 purposes of subsection 33(3) of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.

Division 4—Review of certain decisions about nominees

58 Review of certain decisions about nominees

- (1) The Secretary may, on his or her own initiative, review any of the following if the Secretary is satisfied that there is enough reason to do so:
 - (a) a decision under section 50 to appoint a person to be the nominee of a participant;
 - (b) a decision under section 52, 53 or 54 to cancel or suspend, or not to cancel or suspend, the appointment of a nominee.
- (2) On review of a decision, the Secretary must:
 - (a) affirm the decision; or
 - (b) vary the decision; or
 - (c) set the decision aside and substitute a new decision.

59 Application for review

- (1) A person whose interests are affected by a decision referred to in subsection 58(1) may apply to the Secretary for review of the decision within 28 days, or such longer period as the Secretary allows, after the day on which the person first received notice of the decision.
- (2) The person must give reasons for the application.
- (3) The application must be made by:
 - (a) sending or delivering a written application to the Secretary in accordance with the rules (if any); or
 - (b) making an oral application, in person or by telephone or other means, to the Secretary in accordance with the rules (if any).
- (4) If a person makes an oral application in accordance with paragraph (3)(b), the person receiving the oral application must:
 - (a) make a written record of the details of the application; and
 - (b) note on the record the day the application is made.

Section 60

60 Withdrawal of application

- (1) A person who has applied for review of a decision may withdraw the application at any time before a decision is made under section 61, by:
- (a) sending or delivering a written notice to the Secretary in accordance with the rules (if any); or
 - (b) contacting the Secretary and withdrawing the application orally, whether in person, by telephone or by other means in accordance with the rules (if any).
- (2) If an application is withdrawn in accordance with paragraph (1)(b), the person receiving the oral withdrawal must make a written record of the details of the withdrawal and note on the record the day the withdrawal is made.
- (3) If an application for review of a decision is withdrawn, the application is taken never to have been made.

61 Review of decisions following application under section 59

If a person applies under section 59 for review of a decision, the Secretary must:

- (a) review the decision; and
- (b) do one of the following:
 - (i) affirm the decision;
 - (ii) vary the decision;
 - (iii) set the decision aside and substitute a new decision.

62 Notice and date of effect

- (1) The Secretary's decision (the *decision on review*) to affirm, vary or set aside a decision takes effect:
- (a) on the day specified in the decision on review; or
 - (b) if a day is not specified—on the day on which the decision on review was made.

Section 62

- 1 (2) The Secretary must notify the applicant of the decision on review,
2 and the reasons for that decision, as soon as practicable after
3 making the decision on review.

1 **Division 5—Other matters relating to nominees**

2 **63 Secretary's powers to give notices to participant**

3 Nothing in this Part is intended in any way to affect the Secretary's
4 powers under other provisions of this Act to give notices to a
5 participant who has a nominee.

6 **64 Notification of nominee where notice is given to participant**

7 If, under this Act (other than this Part), the Secretary gives a notice
8 to a participant who has a nominee, the Secretary must inform the
9 nominee of the giving of the notice and of the terms of the notice.

10 **65 Protection of participant against liability for actions of nominee**

11 Nothing in this Part renders a participant guilty of an offence
12 against this Act in relation to any act or omission of the
13 participant's nominee.

14 **66 Protection of nominee against criminal liability**

15 A nominee of a participant is not subject to any criminal liability
16 under this Act in relation to:

- 17 (a) any act or omission of the participant; or
18 (b) anything done, in good faith, by the nominee in his or her
19 capacity as nominee.

1 **Part 5—Administration**

2 **Division 1—Introduction**

3 **67 Simplified outline of this Part**

4	The Secretary may require an applicant for the BSWAT payment
5	scheme, or any other person, to give information for the purposes
6	of determining an application or for any other purposes in relation
7	to this Act.
8	Information can be obtained, recorded, used and disclosed for the
9	purposes of this Act and for certain other limited purposes. There
10	are criminal offences for misuse of information obtained for the
11	purposes of this Act.
12	In certain cases where an amount is wrongly paid to a person, the
13	amount becomes a debt to the Commonwealth that can be
14	recovered through the courts, or through a payment arrangement
15	the Commonwealth might enter into with the person.

Section 68

Division 2—Information gathering

68 Further information from applicant

- (1) The Secretary may, by written notice given to a person who has made an application for the BSWAT payment scheme, request the person to give further information to the Department if the Secretary considers that the information would assist in determining the application.
- (2) The notice:
- (a) may be given personally or by post or in any other manner approved by the Secretary; and
 - (b) must specify:
 - (i) the nature of the information that is requested; and
 - (ii) how the person is to give the information; and
 - (iii) the period within which the person is to give the information; and
 - (iv) the officer or class of officer (if any) to whom the information is to be given; and
 - (v) that the notice is given under this section.
- (3) A notice is not invalid merely because it does not comply with subparagraph (2)(b)(ii) or (v).
- (4) The period specified under subparagraph (2)(b)(iii) must not end earlier than 14 days after the notice is given.
- (5) The application need not be determined until the further information is provided.

69 General power to obtain information

- (1) The Secretary may, in accordance with section 72, require a person to give information, or produce a document that is in the person's custody or under the person's control, to the Department if the Secretary considers that the information or document may be relevant to one or more of the following matters:

Section 70

- 1 (a) the determination of another person's application for the
2 BSWAT payment scheme;
3 (b) before the person lodges an effective acceptance—whether
4 there is an alternative amount for the person;
5 (c) whether a debt arises under Division 4 in relation to a
6 payment made to a person.
- 7 (2) If the requirement is made in relation to the matter referred to in
8 paragraph (1)(a), the application need not be determined until the
9 further information is provided.

10 **70 Power to obtain information from a person who owes a debt to**
11 **the Commonwealth**

12 The Secretary may, in accordance with section 72, require a person
13 who owes a debt to the Commonwealth under section 84:

- 14 (a) either to:
15 (i) give to the Department information that is relevant to
16 the person's financial situation; or
17 (ii) produce to the Department a document that is in the
18 person's custody or under the person's control and is
19 relevant to the person's financial situation; and
20 (b) if the person's address changes—to inform the Department of
21 the new address within 14 days after the change.

22 **71 Obtaining information about a person who owes a debt to the**
23 **Commonwealth**

24 If the Secretary believes that a person may have information or a
25 document:

- 26 (a) that would help the Secretary locate another person (the
27 **debtor**) who owes a debt to the Commonwealth under
28 section 84; or
29 (b) that is relevant to the debtor's financial situation;
30 the Secretary may, in accordance with section 72, require the
31 person to give the information, or produce the document, to the
32 Secretary.

Section 72

72 Written notice

- (1) A requirement under section 69, 70 or 71 must be made by written notice given to the person of whom the requirement is made.
- (2) The notice:
- (a) may be given personally or by post or in any other manner approved by the Secretary; and
 - (b) must specify:
 - (i) how the person is to give the information or produce the document to which the requirement relates; and
 - (ii) the period within which the person is to give the information or produce the document to the Department; and
 - (iii) the officer or class of officer (if any) to whom the information is to be given or the document is to be produced; and
 - (iv) that the notice is given under this section.
- (3) A notice is not invalid merely because it does not comply with subparagraph (2)(b)(i) or (iv).
- (4) The period specified under subparagraph (2)(b)(ii) must not end earlier than 14 days after the notice is given.

73 Offence

- (1) A person commits an offence if:
- (a) the person is required under section 69, 70 or 71 to give information or produce a document; and
 - (b) the person refuses or fails to comply with the requirement.

Penalty: 30 penalty units.

- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply if the person has a reasonable excuse.

Note: A defendant bears an evidential burden in relation to the matter in subsection (2) (see subsection 13.3(3) of the *Criminal Code*).

1 **74 Obligations not affected by State or Territory laws**

2 Nothing in a law of a State or Territory operates to prevent a
3 person from complying with a requirement made under this Act to
4 provide information or a document to the Department.

Section 75

Division 3—Privacy

75 Protection of information

(1) A person may obtain protected information for the purposes of this Act.

(2) A person may:

- (a) make a record of protected information; or
- (b) disclose such information to any person; or
- (c) otherwise use such information;

if the person is doing so:

- (d) for the purposes of this Act; or
- (e) for the purpose for which the information was disclosed to the person under section 81; or
- (f) with the express or implied consent of the person to whom the information relates.

76 Offence—unauthorised access to protected information

A person commits an offence if:

- (a) the person obtains information; and
- (b) the person is not authorised or required by or under this Act to obtain the information; and
- (c) the information is protected information.

Penalty: Imprisonment for 2 years or 120 penalty units, or both.

77 Offence—unauthorised use or disclosure of protected information

A person commits an offence if:

- (a) the person:
 - (i) makes a record of information; or
 - (ii) discloses information to any other person; or
 - (iii) otherwise makes use of information; and

Section 78

(b) the person is not authorised or required by or under this Act to make the record, disclosure or use of the information that is made by the person; and

(c) the information is protected information.

Penalty: Imprisonment for 2 years or 120 penalty units, or both.

78 Offence—soliciting disclosure of protected information

A person (the *first person*) commits an offence if:

(a) the first person solicits the disclosure of information from an officer or another person, whether or not any protected information is actually disclosed; and

(b) the disclosure would be in contravention of this Division; and

(c) the information is protected information.

Penalty: Imprisonment for 2 years or 120 penalty units, or both.

79 Offence—offering to supply protected information

(1) A person commits an offence if:

(a) the person offers to supply (whether to a particular person or otherwise) information about another person; and

(b) the person knows the information is protected information.

Penalty: Imprisonment for 2 years or 120 penalty units, or both.

(2) A person commits an offence if:

(a) the person holds himself or herself out as being able to supply (whether to a particular person or otherwise) information about another person; and

(b) the person knows the information is protected information.

Penalty: Imprisonment for 2 years or 120 penalty units, or both.

(3) Subsections (1) and (2) do not apply to an officer acting in the performance or exercise of his or her duties, functions or powers under this Act.

Section 80

80 Protection of certain documents etc. from production to court etc.

A person must not, except for the purposes of this Act, be required:

- (a) to produce any document in his or her possession because of the performance of his or her functions or duties or the exercise of his or her powers under this Act; or
- (b) to disclose any matter or thing of which he or she had notice because of the performance of such functions or duties or the exercise of such powers;

to a court, tribunal, authority or person that has power to require the production of documents or the answering of questions.

81 Disclosure of information by Secretary

(1) Despite sections 77 and 80, the Secretary may:

- (a) if the Secretary certifies that it is necessary in the public interest to do so in a particular case or class of cases—disclose information acquired by a person in the performance of his or her functions or duties or in the exercise of his or her powers under this Act to such persons and for such purposes as the Secretary determines; or
- (b) disclose any such information:
 - (i) to the Secretary of a Department of State of the Commonwealth, or to the head of an authority of the Commonwealth, for the purposes of that Department or authority; or
 - (ii) to a person who has the express or implied consent of the person to whom the information relates to collect it; or
 - (iii) to the Chief Executive Centrelink for the purposes of a centrelink program; or
 - (iv) to the Chief Executive Medicare for the purposes of a medicare program.

(2) In certifying for the purposes of paragraph (1)(a) or disclosing information for the purposes of subparagraph (1)(b)(i), the Secretary must act in accordance with any rules made for the purposes of section 82.

Section 82

- 1 (3) Despite any other provision of this Division, the Secretary may
2 disclose protected information to a participant's nominee if the
3 protected information:
4 (a) relates to the participant; and
5 (b) is or was held in the records of the Department.

6 **82 Rules for exercise of Secretary's disclosure powers**

7 The rules may make provision for and in relation to the exercise of
8 either or both of the following:

- 9 (a) the Secretary's power to certify for the purposes of
10 paragraph 81(1)(a);
11 (b) the Secretary's power under subparagraph 81(1)(b)(i) to
12 disclose information to a person.

13 **83 Part does not affect the operation of the *Freedom of Information***
14 ***Act 1982***

15 The provisions of this Part that relate to the disclosure of
16 information do not affect the operation of the *Freedom of*
17 *Information Act 1982*.

Section 84

Division 4—Debt recovery

84 Debts due to the Commonwealth

- (1) If a payment amount has been paid in respect of a person, the amount (or an amount equivalent to the amount) is a debt due to the Commonwealth only to the extent expressly provided for by this section.
- (2) If an amount is paid to a person (the *recipient*) but was not payable because:
- (a) the amount was paid to the wrong person; or
 - (b) there is no determination of a payment amount, or no effective acceptance, that relates to the payment; or
 - (c) the amount exceeds the payment amount determined for a person;
- the amount paid (or an amount equivalent to that amount), or the amount of the excess, is a debt due to the Commonwealth by the recipient.
- (3) If:
- (a) a payment amount is paid to a person (the *recipient*) under this Act; and
 - (b) the amount was paid wholly or partly because of a false or misleading statement, or a misrepresentation, by the recipient or another person;
- then an amount equal to so much of the payment amount as is attributable to the false or misleading statement, or the misrepresentation, is a debt due to the Commonwealth by the recipient.
- Note: See also section 85 (joint and several liability for debts arising because of false and misleading statements).
- (4) A debt due by a person under this section in respect of an amount arises at the time the amount is paid to the person.

1 **85 Joint and several liability for debts arising because of false and**
2 **misleading statements**

3 A person (the *recipient*) and another person are jointly and
4 severally liable to pay a debt if:

- 5 (a) the recipient is liable under this Division to repay an amount
6 (the *unauthorised amount*) paid to the recipient (or an
7 amount equal to such an amount); and
8 (b) the unauthorised amount was paid because the recipient
9 contravened Part 7.4 of the *Criminal Code* (which deals with
10 false and misleading statements); and
11 (c) the other person is convicted of an offence:
12 (i) that is taken to have been committed in relation to that
13 contravention because of section 11.2 or 11.2A of the
14 *Criminal Code* (which deal with complicity, common
15 purpose and joint commission); or
16 (ii) in relation to that contravention against section 11.4 or
17 11.5 of the *Criminal Code* (which deal with incitement
18 and conspiracy).

19 **86 Legal proceedings**

20 A debt due to the Commonwealth under this Act is recoverable by
21 the Commonwealth in a court of competent jurisdiction.

22 **87 Arrangement for payment of debt**

- 23 (1) The Secretary may, on behalf of the Commonwealth, enter into an
24 arrangement with a person under which the person is to pay a debt
25 owed by the person to the Commonwealth under this Act, or the
26 outstanding amount of such a debt, in a way set out in the
27 arrangement.
28 (2) The arrangement has effect from the day specified in the
29 arrangement, which may be earlier than the day on which the
30 arrangement is entered into.
31 (3) If the arrangement does not specify a day as mentioned in
32 subsection (2), it has effect on and after the day on which it is
33 entered into.

Section 88

- 1 (4) The Secretary may vary or terminate the arrangement:
2 (a) at the debtor's request; or
3 (b) after giving 28 days' notice to the debtor of the proposed
4 variation or termination; or
5 (c) if the Secretary is satisfied that the person has failed to
6 disclose material information about his or her true capacity to
7 repay the debt—without notice.

8 **88 Recovery of amounts from financial institutions**

- 9 (1) If:
10 (a) an amount is paid under this Act to a financial institution for
11 the credit of an account kept with the institution; and
12 (b) the Secretary is satisfied that the payment was intended to be
13 made to someone who was not the person or one of the
14 persons in whose name or names the account was kept;
15 the Secretary may give a written notice to the institution setting out
16 the matters mentioned in paragraphs (a) and (b) and requiring the
17 institution to pay to the Commonwealth, within a reasonable period
18 stated in the notice, the lesser of the following amounts:
19 (c) an amount specified in the notice that is equal to the amount
20 that was paid as mentioned in paragraph (a);
21 (d) the amount standing to the credit of the account when the
22 notice is received by the institution.
- 23 (2) A financial institution must comply with a notice given to it under
24 subsection (1).
- 25 Penalty: 300 penalty units.
- 26 (3) It is a defence to a prosecution of a financial institution for failing
27 to comply with a notice given to it under subsection (1) if the
28 financial institution proves that it was incapable of complying with
29 the notice.
- 30 (4) If a notice is given to a financial institution under subsection (1) in
31 respect of an amount paid under this Act, any amount recovered by
32 the Commonwealth from the institution in respect of the payment

Section 89

1 reduces any debt owed to the Commonwealth by any other person
2 in respect of the amount.

3 (5) In this Act:

4 *financial institution* means a corporation that is an ADI for the
5 purposes of the *Banking Act 1959*.

6 **89 Overseas application of debts**

7 The operation of a provision creating a debt under this Part extends
8 to:

- 9 (a) acts, omissions, matters and things outside Australia, whether
10 or not in a foreign country; and
11 (b) all persons, irrespective of their nationality or citizenship.

Section 90

Division 5—Non-recovery of debts

90 Secretary may write off debt

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), the Secretary may, on behalf of the Commonwealth, decide to write off a debt, for a stated period or otherwise.
- (2) The Secretary may decide to write off a debt under subsection (1) if, and only if:
 - (a) the debt is irrecoverable at law; or
 - (b) the debtor has no capacity to repay the debt; or
 - (c) the debtor's whereabouts are unknown after all reasonable efforts have been made to locate the debtor; or
 - (d) it is not cost effective for the Commonwealth to take action to recover the debt.
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph (2)(a), a debt is irrecoverable at law if, and only if:
 - (a) the debt cannot be recovered by means of legal proceedings because the period during which such proceedings may be brought has ended; or
 - (b) there is no proof of the debt capable of sustaining legal proceedings for its recovery; or
 - (c) the debtor is discharged from bankruptcy and the debt was incurred before the debtor became bankrupt and was not incurred by fraud; or
 - (d) the debtor has died leaving no estate or insufficient funds in the debtor's estate to repay the debt.
- (4) A decision made under subsection (1) takes effect:
 - (a) if no day is specified in the decision—on the day the decision is made; or
 - (b) if a day is specified in the decision—on the day so specified (whether that day is before, on or after the day the decision is made).

Section 91

- 1 (5) Nothing in this section prevents anything being done at any time to
2 recover a debt that has been written off under this section.

3 **91 Power to waive Commonwealth's right to recover debt**

- 4 (1) On behalf of the Commonwealth, the Secretary may waive the
5 Commonwealth's right to recover the whole or a part of a debt
6 from a debtor only in the circumstances described in section 92,
7 93, 94 or 95.

- 8 (2) A waiver takes effect:

- 9 (a) on the day specified in the waiver (whether that day is before,
10 on or after the day the decision to waive is made); or
11 (b) if the waiver does not specify when it takes effect—on the
12 day the decision to waive is made.

13 Note: If the Secretary waives the Commonwealth's right to recover all or
14 part of a debt, this is a permanent bar to recovery of the debt or part of
15 the debt and the debt or part of the debt effectively ceases to exist.

16 **92 Waiver of debt arising from error**

17 The Secretary must waive the right to recover the proportion of a
18 debt that is attributable solely to an administrative error made by
19 the Commonwealth if:

- 20 (a) the debtor received the payment that gave rise to that
21 proportion of the debt in good faith; and
22 (b) the debt is not raised within 8 weeks from the payment.

23 Note: This section does not allow waiver of a part of a debt that was caused
24 partly by administrative error and partly by one or more other factors.

25 **93 Waiver of small debt**

26 The Secretary may waive the right to recover a debt if:

- 27 (a) the debt is, or is likely to be, less than \$200; and
28 (b) it is not cost effective for the Commonwealth to take action
29 to recover the debt.

Section 94

94 Waiver in relation to settlements

- (1) If the Commonwealth has agreed to settle a civil action against a debtor for recovery of a debt for less than the full amount of the debt, the Secretary must waive the right to recover the difference between the debt and the amount that is the subject of the settlement.
- (2) If:
- (a) the Commonwealth has recovered at least 80% of the original value of a debt from a debtor; and
 - (b) the Commonwealth and the debtor agree that the recovery is in full satisfaction for the whole of the debt; and
 - (c) the debtor cannot repay a greater proportion of the debt;
- the Secretary must waive the remaining 20% or less of the value of the original debt.
- (3) If the Secretary and a debtor agree that the debtor's debt will be fully satisfied if the debtor pays the Commonwealth an agreed amount that is less than the amount of the debt outstanding at the time of the agreement (the *unpaid amount*), the Secretary must waive the right to recover the difference between the unpaid amount and the agreed amount.
- (4) The Secretary must not make an agreement described in subsection (3) unless the Secretary is satisfied that the agreed amount is at least the present value of the unpaid amount if it is repaid in instalments of amounts, and at times, determined by the Secretary.
- (5) For the purposes of subsection (4), the present value of the unpaid amount is the amount worked out in accordance with the method prescribed by the rules.

95 Waiver in special circumstances

The Secretary may waive the right to recover a debt if:

- (a) the debt did not arise in whole or part as a result of:
 - (i) a contravention of this Act or the rules; or

Section 95

- 1 (ii) a false or misleading statement or a misrepresentation;
2 and
3 (b) there are special circumstances (other than financial hardship
4 or the disability of the debtor) that the Secretary is satisfied
5 make waiver appropriate; and
6 (c) the Secretary is satisfied that waiver is more appropriate than
7 writing off the debt.

Section 96

Part 6—Miscellaneous

96 Simplified outline of this Part

This Part deals with miscellaneous matters.

97 Effect of person's death

- (1) This Act continues to apply, with the modifications made by the rules, in relation to a person who dies:
- (a) after making an application under section 15; and
 - (b) before lodging an effective acceptance.
- (2) An application cannot be made on behalf of a person who has died.

98 No admissions

None of the following:

- (a) the determination of a payment amount for a person;
- (b) the making of an offer to a person;
- (c) the paying of a payment amount to a person;
- (d) anything else done under this Act or the rules;
- (e) anything in this Act or the rules;

constitutes an admission by the Commonwealth that it is liable for unlawful discrimination or any other matter referred to in subsection 10(2), or that a particular method should be adopted in assessing damages or compensation claimed by a person in connection with the use of a BSWAT assessment to work out a minimum wage payable to a person.

99 Standing appropriation

The Consolidated Revenue Fund is appropriated for the purposes of making:

Section 100

- 1 (a) payments that the Secretary is satisfied are required to be
2 paid under section 40; and
3 (b) payments of amounts under subsection 27(4).

100 Delegation

- 5 (1) The Secretary may, in writing, delegate to an officer any or all of
6 the powers or functions of the Secretary under this Act.
7 (2) In exercising powers or performing functions under a delegation,
8 the delegate must comply with any directions of the Secretary.

101 Approved forms

10 The Secretary may, in writing, approve one or more forms for the
11 purposes of a provision of this Act or the rules that provides for
12 something to be done in an approved form.

102 Rules

- 14 The Minister may, by legislative instrument, make rules
15 prescribing matters:
16 (a) required or permitted by this Act to be prescribed by the
17 rules; or
18 (b) necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or
19 giving effect to this Act.