

NATIONAL HEALTH.

No. 55 of 1956.

An Act to amend the *National Health Act*
1953-1955.

[Assented to 30th June, 1956.]

BE it enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, the Senate,
and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of
Australia, as follows :—

1.—(1.) This Act may be cited as the *National Health Act* 1956.

Short title
and citation.

(2.) The *National Health Act* 1953-1955* is in this Act referred to as the Principal Act.

(3.) The Principal Act, as amended by this Act, may be cited as the *National Health Act* 1953-1956.

2.—(1.) Except as provided by the next succeeding sub-section, this Act shall come into operation on the day on which it receives the Royal Assent.

Commencement.

(2.) Section four of this Act shall be deemed to have come into operation on the fourteenth day of April, One thousand nine hundred and fifty-four.

3. After section fifteen of the Principal Act the following section is inserted :—

“ 15A.—(1.) Where a medical service is not specified in any of Parts 2 to 7 (inclusive) of the First Schedule to this Act or in the Second Schedule to this Act, the Minister may, by writing under his hand, determine an amount, not exceeding Eleven pounds five shillings, to be the appropriate amount of Commonwealth benefit in respect of that service, and where a contributor incurs or has incurred medical expenses in respect of that medical service while that determination is in operation or is deemed to have been in operation—

Medical service not specified in Schedules.

- (a) that medical service shall be deemed to be a professional service specified in the Second Schedule to this Act ; and
- (b) the amount specified in the determination shall be deemed to be specified in that Schedule in relation to that medical service.

“(2.) A determination under this section shall come into operation, or shall be deemed to have come into operation, on such date as the Minister specifies in the determination.”

4. Section nineteen of the Principal Act is amended by omitting sub-sections (2.) and (3.) and inserting in their stead the following sub-section :—

Commonwealth benefit not payable where medical expenses payable to public hospitals.

“(2.) In this section—

- ‘ hospital treatment ’ has the same meaning as in Part V. of this Act ;
- ‘ professional service ’ does not include a professional service specified in any of the following items in the Second Schedule to this Act, namely, items two hundred and one to three hundred and eighteen, inclusive, and three hundred and thirty-two ;

* Act No. 95, 1953, as amended by No. 68, 1955.

‘ public hospital ’ means premises or part of premises which are recognized, in accordance with the law of a State, as a public hospital and in which patients are received and lodged for hospital treatment, and includes—

- (a) in relation to the State of South Australia, a hospital to which Part IV. of the Hospitals Act, 1934-1952, of that State applies; and
- (b) the Canberra Community Hospital.”

5. After section one hundred and nineteen of the Principal Act the following section is inserted :—

Acting
member.

“ 119A. If the Minister becomes aware that a member of a Committee will be unable to attend a meeting or meetings of the Committee, the Minister may appoint a qualified person to act in the stead of that member at the meeting or meetings from which he will be absent, and the person so appointed shall, while so acting, be deemed to be a member of the Committee.”

Publication
of notice of
certain action
taken under
this Act.

6. Section one hundred and thirty-four A of the Principal Act is amended by inserting in sub-section (1.), after the word “ Act ”, the words “ and a statement of the reason for that action ”.

SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION 1954-55.

No. 56 of 1956.

An Act to appropriate a further sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ended the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and fifty-five.

[Assented to 30th June, 1956.]

[Date of commencement, 28th July, 1956.]

BE it enacted by the Queen’s Most Excellent Majesty, the Senate, and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, for the purpose of appropriating the grant originated in the House of Representatives, as follows :—

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the *Supplementary Appropriation Act 1954-55*.

Appropriation
of £4,175,411.

2. The sum of Four million one hundred and seventy-five thousand four hundred and eleven pounds which has been issued from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year