

Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Caring for Single Parents) Bill 2014

Sponsor: Senator Rachel Siewert

Introduced: House of Representatives, 22 October 2014

Purpose

1.17 The Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Caring for Single Parents) Bill 2014 (the bill) seeks to:

- amend the *Social Security Act 1991* to enable single parents to access the parenting payment (single) until their youngest child has turned 16 years of age;
- amend the *Social Security (Administration) Act 1999* to provide for payments under this Act; and
- amend the *Fair Work Act 2009* to provide for an enforceable right to request flexible work arrangements for people with caring responsibilities, including single parents.

Committee view on compatibility

1.18 The committee agrees with the Statement of Compatibility which states that the bill engages and promotes the right to social security in article 9 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), and the right to work under just and favourable conditions in articles 6 and 7 of the ICESCR.

1.19 The committee is of the view that the bill also engages and promotes rights to equality and non-discrimination in articles 2, 16 and 26 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; the right to family in article 8 of the ICESCR; women's right to non-discrimination in work in article 11 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; and children's rights to family and development in articles 18 and 20 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

1.20 **The committee considers that the bill promotes human rights and has concluded its examination of the bill.**