



Cabinet Legislation Committee

Minute of Decision

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Social Security Amendment Regulations (No 3) 2025 and Student Allowances Amendment Regulations (No 2) 2025

Portfolio **Social Development and Employment**

On 4 December 2025, the Cabinet Legislation Committee:

- 1 **noted** that as part of Budget 2024, Cabinet agreed that housing contributions from all boarders will be counted in the assessment of housing subsidies from 1 April 2026 [CAB-24-MIN-0148.74];
- 2 **noted** that in January 2025, the Cabinet Economic Policy Committee agreed that the above change will come into force on 2 March 2026 [ECO-25-MIN-0002];
- 3 **noted** that the Social Assistance Legislation (Accommodation Supplement and Income-related Rent) Amendment Act 2025 (the Act) gives effect to the decisions above;
- 4 **noted** that due to the Act coming into force on 2 March 2026, consequential amendments are required to the Social Security Regulations 2018 (Social Security Regulations) and the Student Allowances Regulations 1998, to ensure that:
 - 4.1 the legislative changes to recognise boarders' contributions in the assessment of accommodation costs, when considering a person's eligibility for and rate of housing subsidy, will also apply to Temporary Additional Support;
 - 4.2 the meaning of accommodation costs in relevant provisions of the Social Security Regulations 2018 is defined by reference to the appropriate provision in the Social Security Act 2018 (Social Security Act);
 - 4.3 the Student Allowances Regulations 1998 reference the correct provisions in the Social Security Act and Social Security Regulations governing the rate payable, and asset limits for, the Accommodation Supplement, which in turn determine the amount of Accommodation Benefit payable;
- 5 **noted** that the Social Security Amendment Regulations (No 3) 2025 and Student Allowances Amendment Regulations (No 2) 2025 (together, the Regulations) will give effect to the decisions in paragraphs 1 and 2 above;
- 6 **authorised** the submission to the Executive Council of the Social Security Amendment Regulations (No 3) 2025 [PCO 28323/8.0] and Student Allowances Amendment Regulations (No 2) 2025 [PCO 28324/10.0];

7 **noted** that the Regulations will come into force on 2 March 2026.

Tom Kelly
Committee Secretary

Present:

Hon David Seymour
Hon Chris Bishop (Chair)
Hon Paul Goldsmith
Hon Shane Jones
Hon Nicole McKee
Hon Casey Costello
Hon James Meager
Stuart Smith, MP

Officials present from:

Officials Committee for LEG
Office of the Associate Minister of Justice (Hon Nicole
McKee)