

## **Transport Administration Amendment (CountryLink Pensioner Booking Fee Abolition) Bill 2007**

### **Explanatory note**

This explanatory note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament.

#### Overview of Bill

The object of this Bill is to abolish booking fees on the use of pensioner travel vouchers and passes on CountryLink rail services.

#### Outline of provisions

**Clause 1** sets out the name (also called the short title) of the proposed Act.

**Clause 2** provides for the commencement of the proposed Act on the date of assent to the proposed Act.

**Clause 3** is a formal provision that gives effect to the amendments to the *Transport Administration Act 1988* set out in Schedule 1.

**Clause 4** provides for the repeal of the proposed Act after the amendments made by the proposed Act have commenced. Once the amendments have commenced the proposed Act will be spent and section 30 of the *Interpretation Act 1987* provides that the repeal of an amending Act does not affect the amendments made by that Act.

#### **Schedule 1 Amendments**

**Schedule 1 [1]** makes it clear that an order fixing charges for services of RailCorp cannot impose a CountryLink pensioner booking fee (that is, a fee, however described, charged for or in relation to a NSW/ACT pensioner booking a railway service provided by CountryLink using what would otherwise be a free travel pass, a concessional travel pass or a pensioner travel voucher).

**Schedule 1 [2]** provides that RailCorp must not charge any pensioner booking fee for travel on a railway service provided by CountryLink. The new section provides that the order published by RailCorp on 9 June 2006 (see Gazette No 75 at pp 4248–4250) is of no effect, to the extent that it imposes a pensioner booking fee.