First print



New South Wales

Workers Compensation Legislation Amendment Bill 2006

Explanatory note

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

Overview of Bill

The objects of this Bill are as follows:

- (a) to amend the *Workers Compensation Act 1987 (the 1987 Act)* to provide for common arrangements in relation to workers compensation insurance for employers who are members of groups of related entity employers (similar to pay-roll tax employer grouping),
- (b) to amend the 1987 Act to provide that the excess amount that an employer must repay to a workers compensation insurer after a weekly compensation claim is paid to an injured worker is to be specified in the insurance premiums order that applies to the policy under which the claim is paid,
- (c) to repeal uncommenced provisions of the *Workers Compensation Legislation Amendment Act 2002* relating to an earlier proposed scheme of assessing premiums for groups of related entity employers,
- (d) to amend the 1987 Act to enable savings and transitional regulations consequent on the enactment of the proposed Act to be made,
- (e) to amend the *Workplace Injury Management and Workers Compensation Act* 1998 (*the 1998 Act*) to provide that an employer who is not required to obtain

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and maintain a workers compensation insurance policy, or be licensed as a self-insurer, under State workers compensation laws because the employer is licensed under Part VIII of the *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988* of the Commonwealth must pay a similar contribution to the WorkCover Authority Fund as is currently paid by insurers and self-insurers.

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 a day or days to be appointed by proclamation.

Clause 3 is a formal provision that gives effect to the amendments to the 1987 Act set out in Schedule 1.

Clause 4 is a formal provision that gives effect to the amendments to the 1998 Act set out in Schedule 2.

Clause 5 repeals the *Workers Compensation Legislation Amendment Act 2002* (which contains uncommenced provisions relating to an earlier proposed scheme of assessing premiums for groups of related entity employers) to give effect to the object referred to in paragraph (c) of the Overview.

Clause 6 provides for the repeal of the proposed Act after all 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 Amendment of Workers Compensation Act 1987 No 70

Schedule 1 [7] inserts proposed Division 2A (proposed sections 175D–175J) into Part 7 of the 1987 Act to give effect to the object referred to in paragraph (a) of the Overview.

Proposed section 175D provides that a *group* means a group constituted under Part 10A of the *Taxation Administration Act 1996* (that provides for grouping for the purposes of pay-roll tax), but does not include any member of the group in respect of whom a determination under proposed section 175E is in force. This proposed Division also will not apply to the following:

- (a) an employer who is a self-insurer,
- (b) the persons, groups of persons and bodies constituted as a primary group by virtue of section 106J of the *Taxation Administration Act 1996* (being government departments),
- (c) the members of a group where the total wages payable to workers employed by the members of the group do not exceed:
 - (i) \$600,000 per year, or

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(ii) if some other amount is prescribed by the regulations—that other amount.

Regulations may also be made to exclude any class or classes of employers from the operation of the proposed Division or specified provisions of the proposed Division.

Proposed section 175E provides that the WorkCover Authority may, by order in writing, determine that an employer who would, but for the determination, be a member of a group is not a member of the group. Proposed section 175F sets out which employers may be the subject of a determination under this proposed section. Such a determination may be revoked. If an employer in respect of whom such a determination was made becomes aware that the employer no longer is one to which proposed section 175F applies, the employer must, within 14 days, notify the Authority of that fact. Failure to do so will be an offence carrying a maximum penalty of 500 penalty units (currently \$55,000).

Proposed section 175F provides that an exclusion determination under proposed section 175E may only be made in respect of the following employers:

- (a) an employer who would, but for the determination, be a member of a group arising under section 106H of the *Taxation Administration Act 1996* (Primary groups arising from the use of common employees),
- (b) an employer who carries on a business as trustee of a trust and would, but for the determination, be a member of a group arising under section 106I of that Act (Primary groups of commonly controlled businesses),
- (c) an employer that is a non-profit organisation having as one of its objects a charitable, benevolent, philanthropic or patriotic purpose, but only if the employer's business is not in direct competition with any for-profit organisation.

Proposed section 175G provides that the workers compensation insurance policy of each employer who is a member of a group must:

- (a) be obtained from or through the same scheme agent that provides workers compensation insurance policies to the other members of the group, and
- (b) have the same renewal date as those other policies.

An employer who contravenes the proposed section is guilty of an offence carrying a maximum penalty of 500 penalty units (currently \$55,000).

Proposed section 175H provides that if an employer who is a member of a group fails to pay an amount that the employer is required to pay under Part 7 (Insurance) of the 1987 Act (including any workers compensation insurance premium and any sum recoverable by the WorkCover Authority under Part 7 of the 1987 Act from the employer), every member of the group is liable jointly and severally to pay the amount. If 2 or more persons are jointly or severally liable to pay an amount, the person entitled to payment may recover the whole of the amount from them, or any of them, or any one of them. A person who pays an amount in accordance with the

Explanatory note

liability imposed by this proposed section has such rights of contribution or indemnity from the other person or persons as are just.

Proposed section 175I provides for the WorkCover Authority to keep a register of employers who are members of groups. An employer must notify the WorkCover Authority if the employer becomes a member of a group.

If a change occurs in the information provided to the WorkCover Authority in connection with such a notification, the employer must, within 14 days, notify the Authority of that change. Failure to do so will be an offence carrying a maximum penalty of 500 penalty units (currently \$55,000).

Proposed section 175J provides for the inspection of records of employers by the WorkCover Authority. The WorkCover Authority may direct an employer to make available for inspection by the Authority, specified records in the possession of the employer.

Schedule 1 [1] makes a consequential amendment to section 3 (Definitions) of the 1987 Act to provide a definition of *group*.

Schedule 1 [4] and [5] make consequential amendment to section 175 (Employers evading payment of correct premiums) of the 1987 Act. **Schedule 1 [5]** also repeals a redundant provision of the 1987 Act that related to the uncommenced provisions of the *Workers Compensation Legislation Amendment Act 2002* referred to in paragraph (c) of the Overview.

Schedule 1 [6] makes a consequential amendment to section 175A (Recovery from directors of corporation evading payment of correct premium) of the 1987 Act.

Schedule 1 [2] replaces the definition of *prescribed excess amount* in section 160 (1) of the 1987 Act to give effect to the object referred to in paragraph (b) of the Overview. Schedule 1 [3] and Schedule 2 [5] make consequential amendments following on from that amendment.

Schedule 1 [8] repeals a redundant clause of Part 18E of Schedule 6 (Savings, transitional and other provisions) to the 1987 Act that related to the uncommenced provisions of the *Workers Compensation Legislation Amendment Act 2002* referred to in paragraph (c) of the Overview.

Schedule 1 [9] inserts savings and transitional provisions into Schedule 6 to the 1987 Act that relates to the commencement of proposed section 175G as outlined above.

Schedule 1 [10] amends Schedule 6 to the 1987 Act to enable savings and transitional regulations consequent on the enactment of the proposed Act to be made to give effect to the object referred to in paragraph (d) of the Overview.

Explanatory note

Schedule 2 Amendment of Workplace Injury Management and Workers Compensation Act 1998 No 86

Schedule 2 [4] inserts proposed section 39A into the 1998 Act to give effect to the object set out paragraph (e) of the Overview. Proposed section 39A provides that each Comcare employer (see definition below) must pay the contributions prescribed by the proposed section to the WorkCover Authority for payment into the WorkCover Authority Fund.

Schedule 2 [1] amends section 37 (Definitions) of the 1998 Act to provide a definition of *Comcare employer*. A *Comcare employer* means an employer who:

- (a) is licensed under Part VIII of the *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988* of the Commonwealth after a declaration of eligibility under that Part made on the basis that the employer is a corporation carrying on business in competition with a Commonwealth authority or with another corporation that was previously a Commonwealth authority, and
- (b) would otherwise be required:
 - (i) to obtain and maintain in force a policy of insurance pursuant to section 155 of the 1987 Act, or
 - (ii) to be licensed as a self-insurer.

Schedule 2 [2] and [3] make consequential amendments following on from the amendments outlined above.

Schedule 2 [6] amends section 243 (Disclosure of information) of the 1998 Act to allow the WorkCover Authority to disclose any information obtained in connection with the administration or execution of the 1987 Act or the 1998 Act to the Chief Commissioner of State Revenue.

First print



New South Wales

Workers Compensation Legislation Amendment Bill 2006

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New South Wales

Workers Compensation Legislation Amendment Bill 2006

No , 2006

A Bill for

An Act to amend the *Workers Compensation Act 1987* and the *Workplace Injury Management and Workers Compensation Act 1998* to make further provision with respect to the grouping of employers for workers compensation insurance purposes; to provide for contributions to the WorkCover Authority Fund by certain employers licensed under Commonwealth workers compensation legislation; and for other purposes.

The	Logislature of New South Wales anasts					
1 ne	Legislature of New South Wales enacts:	1				
1	Name of Act					
	This Act is the Workers Compensation Legislation Amendment Act 2006.	3 4				
2	Commencement	5				
	This Act commences on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation.	6				
3	Amendment of Workers Compensation Act 1987 No 70	7				
	The <i>Workers Compensation Act 1987</i> is amended as set out in Schedule 1.	8 9				
4	Amendment of Workplace Injury Management and Workers Compensation Act 1998 No 86	10 11				
	The Workplace Injury Management and Workers Compensation Act 1998 is amended as set out in Schedule 2.	12 13				
5	Repeal of Workers Compensation Legislation Amendment Act 2002 No 124	14 15				
	The Workers Compensation Legislation Amendment Act 2002 is repealed.	16 17				
6	Repeal of Act	18				
	(1) This Act is repealed on the day following the day on which all of the provisions of this Act have commenced.	19 20				
	(2) The repeal of this Act does not, because of the operation of section 30 of the <i>Interpretation Act 1987</i> , affect any amendment made by this Act.	21 22				

Amendment of Workers Compensation Act 1987 No 70

Schedule 1

Schedule 1 Amendment of Workers Compensation 1 Act 1987 No 70 2 (Section 3) 3 [1] **Section 3 Definitions** 4 Insert in alphabetical order in section 3 (1): 5 group means the employers who constitute a group under 6 Division 2A of Part 7. 7 [2] Section 160 Recovery of excess from employer 8 Omit the definition of *prescribed excess amount* from section 160 (1). 9 Insert instead: 10 prescribed excess amount, in respect of a weekly compensation 11 claim paid under a policy of insurance, means the prescribed 12 excess amount specified by the relevant insurance premiums 13 order that applies to that policy. 14 [3] Section 160 (9) 15 Omit the subsection. Insert instead: 16 Without limiting the operation of that provision, an insurance 17 premiums order referred to in the definition of *prescribed excess* 18 *amount* in subsection (1) may specify different amounts (or no 19 amount) according to the period within which the employer gave 20 notice of the injury concerned. 21 [4] Section 175 Employers evading payment of correct premiums 22 Insert after section 175 (4): 23 (4AA)If the Authority finds that: 24 an employer has contravened section 175G (Members of 25 (a) group to have policies with same scheme agent and 26 common renewal date) as a result of the issue or renewal 27 of a policy of insurance, and 28 the total premium payable for those policies is less by a (b) 29 certain amount than the total premium that would have 30 been payable had that section been complied with, 31 the Authority may recover from the employer in a court of 32 competent jurisdiction as a debt due to the Authority a sum equal 33 to twice that amount plus the late payment fee provided for by 34

subsection (4A). Half of that sum is to be paid by the Authority

Scheo	dule 1	Ar	mendme	ent of Workers Compensation Act 1987 No 70			
			to the Fund	e insurer and the other half into the WorkCover Authority			
	(4	AB)	an ac subse Autho	the purposes of the application of the <i>Limitation Act 1969</i> to extion on a cause of action to recover an amount under extion (4) or (4AA), the cause of action first accrues to the ority when the Authority makes the finding referred to in subsections.			
[5]	Sect	ion 17	5 (4A)	(b)			
	Omit	the pa	ragrap	h. Insert instead:			
			(b)	under subsection (4AA) as from the date the premium for the issue or renewal of the policy referred to in subsection (4AA) (a) first became due and payable to the insurer.			
[6]	Section 175A Recovery from directors of corporation evading payment of correct premium						
	Insert "or (4AA)" after "section 175 (4)" in section 175A (1).						
[7]	Part	Part 7, Division 2A					
	Inser	t after]	Divisio	on 2:			
	Divi	sion 2A		Grouping of employers for insurance purposes			
1	75D	Grou	ping o	of employers			
		(1)	In thi	s Division:			
			<i>Admi</i> group	p means a group constituted under Part 10A of the <i>Taxation</i> <i>nistration Act 1996</i> , but does not include any member of the o in respect of whom a determination under section 175E of act is in force.			
		(2)	This l	Division does not apply to the following:			
			(a)	an employer who is a self-insurer,			
			(b)	the persons, groups of persons and bodies constituted as a primary group by virtue of section 106J of the <i>Taxation Administration Act 1996</i> (being government departments),			
			(c)	 the members of a group where the total wages payable to workers employed by the members of the group do not exceed: (i) \$600,000 per year, or 			
				(ii) if some other amount is prescribed by the regulations—that other amount.			

Amendment of Workers Compensation Act 1987 No 70

Schedule 1

	(3)	The regulations may make provision for or with respect to excluding, or authorising the Authority to exclude, any class or classes of employers from the operation of this Division or specified provisions of this Division.	1 2 3 4				
175E	Exclusion of employers from groups						
	(1)	The Authority may, by order in writing, determine that an employer who would, but for the determination, be a member of a group is not a member of the group. Note. Section 175F sets out the circumstances in which a determination may be made under this section.	6 7 8 9 10				
	(2)	The Authority must give notice in writing of a determination to the employer in respect of whom the determination is made and to each member of the group.	11 12 13				
	(3)	A determination takes effect:	14				
		(a) on the date on which notice under subsection (2) is given to the employer excluded from the group, or	15 16				
		(b) if another date of effect (including an earlier date) is specified in the notice—on that other date.	17 18				
	(4)	A determination continues in force until it is revoked.	19				
	(5)	The Authority may revoke a determination only if satisfied that the employer to which it relates no longer is an employer to which section 175F applies.					
	(6)	Notice of the revocation of a determination must be given by the Authority:	23 24				
		(a) to the employer in respect of whom the determination was made, and	25 26				
		(b) to each other member of the group of which the employer is a member as a result of the revocation.	27 28				
	(7)	A revocation of a determination takes effect on the date on which notice under subsection (6) (a) is given to the employer in respect of whom the determination was made.					
	(8)	If an employer in respect of whom a determination under this section was made becomes aware that the employer no longer is one to which section 175F applies, the employer must, within 14 days, notify the Authority of that fact. Maximum penalty (subsection (8)): 500 penalty units.					

175F Grounds for excluding employers from group

- (1) A determination may be made by the Authority under section 175E in respect of the following employers only:
 - (a) an employer who would, but for the determination, be a member of a group arising under section 106H of the *Taxation Administration Act 1996* (Primary groups arising from the use of common employees),

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- (b) an employer that carries on a business as trustee of a trust and would, but for the determination, be a member of a group arising under section 106I of the *Taxation Administration Act 1996* (Primary groups of commonly controlled businesses),
- (c) an employer that is a non-profit organisation having as one of its objects a charitable, benevolent, philanthropic or patriotic purpose, but only if the employer's business is not in direct competition with any for-profit organisation.
- (2) In the case of an employer referred to in subsection (1) (b), the determination may be made only if the Authority is satisfied that the employer would, but for the determination, be a member of a group with a person who carries on another business because of the application of one (but not more than one) of the following grouping principles:
 - (a) the exclusive ownership grouping principle (section 1061 (2) (a) and (b) of the *Taxation Administration Act 1996*),
 - (b) the corporate grouping principle (section 106I (2) (c) and (d) and (3) of the *Taxation Administration Act 1996*),
 - (c) the common beneficiary grouping principle (section 106I (2) (e) and (f) and (5)–(8) of the *Taxation Administration Act 1996*).
- (3) The Authority must not make a determination under section 175E in respect of an employer referred to in subsection (1) (a) or (b) unless satisfied that the employer that is the subject of the determination has continuously carried on the business concerned, and will continue to carry on that business, substantially independently of the other member or members of the group.
- (4) In determining whether an employer carries on business substantially independently of the other member or members of a group, the Authority is to have regard to the nature and degree of ownership or control of the business of each member of the group, the nature of each of those businesses and any other matter that the Authority considers relevant.

Amendment of Workers Compensation Act 1987 No 70

Schedule 1

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175G Members of group to have policies with same scheme agent and common renewal date (1)The policy of insurance that an employer who is a member of a group obtains and maintains in force for the purposes of compliance with section 155 (a workers compensation *insurance policy*) must: (a) be obtained from or through the same scheme agent that provides workers compensation insurance policies to the other members of the group, and have the same renewal date as those other policies. (b) 10 (2)An employer who contravenes subsection (1) is guilty of an 11 offence. 12 Maximum penalty: 500 penalty units. 13 If an employer who is a member of a group does not obtain or (3) 14 maintain in force a policy of insurance in compliance with this 15 section, the Authority may by notice in writing to a scheme agent: 16 direct the transfer of any policy of insurance obtained or (a) 17 maintained in contravention of this section to a specified 18 scheme agent (being the scheme agent from or through 19 whom workers compensation insurance is provided to 20 other members of the group concerned), and 21 (b) direct the alteration of the policy of insurance so that the 22 policy renews on the same date as the policies of other 23 members of the group. 24 (4) A scheme agent must give effect to a direction given to it under 25 this section. 26 Joint and several liability of group members 175H 27 (1)If an employer who is a member of a group fails to pay an amount 28 that the employer is required to pay under this Part (including any 29 premium payable for a policy of insurance required under this 30 Part and any sum recoverable by the Authority under this Part 31 from the employer), every member of the group is liable jointly 32 and severally to pay the amount. 33 (2)If 2 or more persons are jointly or severally liable to pay an 34 amount as referred to in this section, the person entitled to 35 payment may recover the whole of the amount from them, or any 36 of them, or any one of them. 37 A person who pays an amount in accordance with the liability (3) 38 imposed by this section has such rights of contribution or 39 indemnity from the other person or persons as are just. 40

175I Registration

175I	Regi	stration	1					
	(1)	The Authority is to keep a register of employers who are members of a group.						
	(2)	An employer must notify the Authority if the employer becomes a member of a group to which this Division applies.						
	(3)	The notification is to be made within 14 days of the employer becoming aware, or of the date the employer ought reasonably to have become aware through the exercise of due diligence, that the employer is a member of a group to which this Division applies.						
	(4)	The notification is to be made to the Authority in a form and manner approved by the Authority.	10 11					
	(5)	The Authority may remove an employer from the register if it is satisfied that the employer has ceased to be an employer that is a member of a group to which this Division applies.	12 13 14					
	(6)	If a change occurs in the information provided to the Authority in a notification, the employer must, within 14 days, notify the Authority of that change.	15 16 17					
		Maximum penalty: 500 penalty units.	18					
175J	Insp	Inspection of records of employers						
	(1)	The Authority may direct an employer in writing to make available, at the time and place specified in the direction, for inspection by a specified person authorised by the Authority, records of a specified kind in the possession of the employer that are relevant to any of the following:						
		(a) the determination of whether the employer is a member of a group,	25 26					
		(b) the identity of other members of a group of which the employer is a member.	27 28					
	(2)	A person authorised under subsection (1) may inspect records in accordance with the terms of the direction and make copies of, or take extracts from, those records.						
	(3)	An employer given a direction under this section:	32					
		(a) must comply with the direction, and	33					
		(b) must not wilfully obstruct or delay an authorised person when exercising any power under subsection (2).Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units.	34 35					
	(A)		36					
	(4)	If an inspection under this section reveals that an employer has contravened a provision of this Division, the Authority is entitled	37 38					

Schedule 1

			to recover in a court of competent jurisdiction, as a debt due to the Authority from the employer, the costs incurred by the Authority in connection with that inspection.	1 2 3
		(5)	A certificate issued by the Authority certifying as to the costs incurred by the Authority in connection with such an inspection is evidence of the matters certified.	4 5 6
[8]	Sche	dule (6 Savings, transitional and other provisions	7
	Omit	claus	e 3 of Part 18E of the Schedule.	8
[9]	Sche	dule (6, Part 19B	9
			Part 19A:	10
	Par	t 19I	B Provisions consequent on enactment of Workers Compensation Legislation Amendment Act 2006	11 12 13
	1		ging about common renewal date for group member's cies: section 175G	14 15
		(1)	Section 175G of this Act (Members of group to have policies with same scheme agent and common renewal date) does not apply to an employer that is a member of a group existing at the commencement of that section until one of the following events occurs:	16 17 18 19 20
			 (a) one employer who is a member of the group obtains a policy of insurance for the first time, (b) one employer who is a member of the group renews a policy of insurance. 	21 22 23
		(2)	At the time that an employer who is a member of a group obtains a policy of insurance for the first time, or renews a policy of insurance, as referred to in subclause (1), all other members of the group who have obtained and maintained policies of insurance must arrange for those policies to be altered, or transferred to another scheme agent, or both, so that all those members comply with section 175G of this Act.	24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
[10]	Sche	dule (6, Part 20	32
	Insert	at the	e end of clause 1 (1):	33
			Workers Compensation Legislation Amendment Act 2006	34

Schedule 2 Amendment of Workplace Injury Management and Workers Compensation Act 1998 No 86

Amendment of Workplace Injury Management and Workers Compensation Act 1998 No 86 Schedule 2

					(Section 4)	4
[1]	Sect	ion 37 l	Defin	itions		5
	Insert in alphabetical order:					6
		-	Com	care e	mployer means an employer who:	7
			(a)	is licensed under Part VIII of the <i>Safety, Rehabilitation and</i> <i>Compensation Act 1988</i> of the Commonwealth after a declaration of eligibility under that Part made on the basis that the employer is a corporation carrying on business in competition with a Commonwealth authority or with another corporation that was previously a Commonwealth		8 9 10 11 12 13
					ority, and	14
			(b)		ld otherwise be required:	15
				(i)	to obtain and maintain in force a policy of insurance pursuant to section 155 of the 1987 Act, or	16 17
				(ii)	to be licensed as a self-insurer.	18
[2]	Sect	ion 37,	defin	ition	of "deemed premium income"	19
	Insert "or Comcare employer" after "self-insurer" wherever occurring.					
[3]	Section 38 Assessment by Authority of amount to be contributed to Fund					21 22
	Omit "and self-insurers" wherever occurring from section 38 (c), (d) and (e).					
	Inser	t instead	d ", so	elf-ins	urers and Comcare employers".	24
[4]	Section 39A				25	
	Insert after section 39:					26
	39A	Contr	ibuti	ons to	Fund by Comcare employers	27
		(1)	by th		care employer must pay the contributions prescribed tion to the Authority for payment into the WorkCover Fund.	28 29 30
		(2)	each part o equa	finan of whi l to	bution to be paid by a Comcare employer, in respect of cial year (being a financial year during the whole or ch the person was a Comcare employer), is an amount the percentage (determined by the Authority in e with this section) of the deemed premium income of	31 32 33 34 35

Amendment of Workplace Injury Management and Workers Compensation Schedule 2 Act 1998 No 86

the Comcare employer during the relevant period when the person was a Comcare employer.

- (3) The percentage determined by the Authority pursuant to subsection (2):
 - (a) subject to paragraph (b), is to be such as, in the opinion of the Authority, will be sufficient to yield the total amount to be contributed to the Fund by Comcare employers in respect of the relevant financial year as determined pursuant to section 38, and
 - (b) is to be 60%, or such other percentage (not exceeding 70%) as determined by the Authority by order, of the percentage determined in accordance with section 39, and
 - (c) is to be rounded to 2 decimal places, and
 - (d) is to be the same percentage for all Comcare employers.

Example. If the percentage determined in accordance with section 39 is 4%, unless an order under subsection (3) (b) has been made, the percentage under subsection (2) will be $(60\% \times 4\% =) 2.40\%$.

If the percentage determined in accordance with section 39 is still 4%, but an order under subsection (3) (b) has been made increasing that percentage to 62.1%, then the percentage under subsection (2) will be (62.1% x 4% = 2.484%, then rounded to the nearest two decimal places) 2.48%.

- (4) A contribution by a Comcare employer is payable in such instalments and at such times as may be determined by the Authority and notified to the Comcare employer.
- (5) The Authority may, at any time during or after a financial year, re-determine the percentage determined pursuant to subsection (2) in respect of the financial year if the estimated total amount of premium income and deemed premium income for the financial year is less than the previously estimated amount on which the original determination of the percentage was based.
- (6) If a percentage is re-determined, the Authority is to make the necessary adjustments to the contributions payable by Comcare employers.
- (7) If a contribution payable by a Comcare employer has not been paid within the time prescribed by or under this section:
 - (a) the Comcare employer is guilty of an offence and liable to a penalty not exceeding 100 penalty units, and
 - (b) the amount of that contribution together with a late payment fee calculated at the rate of 15% of that amount per annum compounded quarterly (or, where another rate

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Schedule 2 Amendment of Workplace Injury Management and Workers Compensation Act 1998 No 86

is prescribed, that other rate) may be recovered by the Authority as a debt in any court of competent jurisdiction.

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- (8) Subject to subsection (3), more than one percentage may be determined by the Authority for different portions of a financial year for the purposes of subsection (2).
- (9) A certificate executed by the Authority as to the amount of a contribution payable under this section by a Comcare employer specified in the certificate and the due date for payment is (without proof of its execution by the Authority) admissible in proceedings under this section and is evidence of the matters specified in the certificate.
- (10) The obligation of a person (being a Comcare employer) to make a contribution under this section in respect of any period during which the person was a Comcare employer does not cease merely because the person subsequently ceases to be a Comcare employer.
- (11) This section does not apply to a Comcare employer on and from the date that the Comcare employer becomes subject to the *Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Act 1991* of the Commonwealth.

[5] Section 44 Early notification of workplace injury

Omit "The regulations under section 160 of the 1987 Act" from section 44 (5). Insert instead "An insurance premiums order referred to in the definition of *prescribed excess amount* in section 160 (1) of the 1987 Act".

[6] Section 243 Disclosure of information

Insert after section 243 (2) (a):

(b) the Chief Commissioner of State Revenue under the *Taxation Administration Act 1996*, and