

## **APPENDIX B.18**

### **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

#### **Summary**

Veterans' Affairs reported four measures<sup>1</sup> during the year, with a total net regulatory saving of \$0.7 million per year.

All four measures relate to changes in procurement methods by replacing some of the existing tender processes with 'public contract' arrangements, resulting in reduced administrative burden associated with these processes.

As part of these arrangements, the tender process for the supply of Medical Grade Footwear (MGF) was replaced on 1 November 2015 with a public contract approach and prior approval is no longer required for ready-made MGF. This will save the supplier time and will improve ease of access to MGF for rural and remote clients.

The new tender arrangements for the supply of Home Medical Therapy and Continuous Positive Airways Pressure products commenced on 1 February 2016 and will result in reduced administrative paperwork and reporting requirements.

Changes to procurement arrangements for providers of community nursing services and private hospital services will commence on 1 July 2016 and will reduce the administrative burden on providers and ensure continuity of services.

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<sup>1</sup> Measures counted here only include decisions with a regulatory impact. Measures with a zero regulatory impact have been excluded.

## 2015 regulatory measures, previously reported in conjunction with the Autumn and Spring Repeal Days

These measures below are reproductions of the 2015 Autumn and Spring Repeal Day overview descriptions and have not been amended.<sup>2</sup> Where necessary, supplementary information is shown as blue text.

Veterans' Affairs	Repealing Division 8 of the <i>Veterans' Entitlements Act</i> (Retirement assistance for farmers) (Autumn)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• As part of 2015 Autumn Repeal Day, spent provisions in the <i>Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986</i> Division 8 relating to the Retirement Assistance for Farmers Scheme will be repealed.</li><li>• The scheme operated from 1997 to 2001. During this time farmers of retirement age were able to transfer their farm assets, up to a maximum of \$500,000, to family members who had been actively involved in the farm without the transfer being taken into account for access to the service pension or income support supplement. An equivalent scheme for age pensioners operated under the <i>Social Security Act 1991</i>. As transfers under the scheme no longer have any effect for means testing purposes, the measure is spent and can be removed. Removal of these provisions will simplify administration.</li><li>• This measure is complemented by repeals of the equivalent spent provisions in the <i>Social Security Act 1991</i>.</li><li>• <b>NB: This measure was part of the Omnibus Repeal Day (Autumn 2015) Bill. There are no regulatory savings or burden associated with this proposal.</b></li></ul>	

<sup>2</sup> To align this table with the 2015 calendar year, any measures accounted for in the previous annual report have been excluded.

Veterans' Affairs	Repealing Division 8A of the <i>Veterans' Entitlements Act</i> (Retirement assistance for sugarcane farmers) (Autumn)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As part of 2015 Autumn Repeal Day, spent provisions in the <i>Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986</i> Division 8A relating to the Retirement Assistance for Sugarcane Farmers Scheme will be repealed.</li> <li>• The scheme operated from 2004 to 2007. During this time qualified sugarcane farmers (and their partners) were able to transfer their farm assets to eligible family members who had been actively involved in the farm without the transfer being taken into account for access to service pension or income support supplement. An equivalent scheme for age pensioners operated under the <i>Social Security Act 1991</i>. As transfers under the scheme no longer have any effect for means testing purposes, the measure is spent and can be removed. Removal of these provisions will simplify administration.</li> <li>• This measure is complemented by repeals of the equivalent spent provisions in the <i>Social Security Act 1991</i>.</li> <li>• <b>NB: This measure was part of the Omnibus Repeal Day (Autumn 2015) Bill. There are no regulatory savings or burden associated with this proposal.</b></li> </ul>	

### Further information

If you would like further information about the information provided here, please email Ms Carolyn Spiers, Assistant Secretary, Legal Services, Assurance and Deregulation Branch from the Department of Veterans' Affairs at [carolyn.spiers@dva.gov.au](mailto:carolyn.spiers@dva.gov.au).