



Australian Government

The Australian Government
Spring Repeal Day
November 2015



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1. Summary

Table 1a: Summary of total net progress since September 2013

	Reported (\$ million)
<i>Net progress reported on the 2015 Autumn Repeal Day (18 March 2015)</i>	2,449.1
<i>Regulatory savings reported since the 2015 Autumn Real Day (at Table 1b)¹</i>	2,111.4
<i>Regulatory costs reported since the 2015 Autumn Repeal Day (at Table 1c)¹</i>	75.9
Total net progress since September 2013	4,484.6

¹ Measures not separately listed in this Overview generally include measures with regulatory savings or costs of less than \$2 million. On occasion, exceptions have been made to incorporate announcements and other measures of interest that have savings or costs below this amount.

Table 1b: Summary of key regulatory savings reported or announced since the 2015 Autumn Repeal Day with an impact greater than \$10 million

2015 Spring Repeal Day – key measures	Reported (\$ million)
Reforming the Renewable Energy Target	519.6
Enhancing communication through digital disclosure	299.1
Increasing flexibility for Australia Post	187.0
Raising the Research and Development (R&D) Tax Incentive Threshold	118.3
Enhancing the ATO online services for individuals and sole traders	109.1
Simplifying transfer pricing record keeping requirements	78.9
Enhancing the quality of Australia’s international education services	75.9
Increasing telecommunications competition in new developments	58.8
Streamlining individual income tax returns 2015 (myTax15)	57.4
Improving unclaimed money requirements on authorized deposit-taking institutions	35.9
Strengthening Australia’s export controls to align them with international best practice	35.4
Removing the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) subsidy for non-essential over-the-counter medicines (Sixth Community Pharmacy Agreement)	34.9
Introducing the Seamless Traveller initiative	32.9
Improving access for NDIS participants and providers	31.4
Introducing flexible Explosive Trace Detection screening arrangements at Australian airports	30.2
Simplifying asset tests for Youth Allowance and ABSTUDY recipients	26.6
Improving claims processes and online functionality	24.2
Simplifying the student visa programme	24.1
Removing obligations on employers to re-offer choice of funds when funds merge	23.2
Reducing the burden of the industrial chemicals regulatory framework	22.7
Removing obligations on employers to offer choice of super fund to temporary residents	22.0
Reforming coastal shipping (coastal trading)	21.4
Easier and faster reconciliation of Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme claims	18.8
Launching the Medicare Bulk Bill Webclaim	16.8
Further reforming procurement and grant administration	15.7
Enhancing Australian Taxation Office integration with the myGov inbox	12.8
Other minor measures featured in this overview ¹	131.4
Other measures not featured in this overview²	46.9
Total	2,111.4

¹ Captures the regulatory savings (reduction in compliance costs) from all the measures reported in this Overview but not separately listed in Table 1b. Savings from measures in the Spring 2014 Repeal Day Bill replicated in the Spring 2015 Bill are not included. Figures may not add due to rounding.

² Captures gross regulatory savings that are not separately reported in this Repeal Day Overview primarily due to the small impact of individual measures and the large number of measures.

Table 1c: Summary of key regulatory costs reported or announced since the 2015 Autumn Repeal Day

2015 Spring Repeal Day – key measures	Reported (\$ million)
Combating multinational tax avoidance	23.3
Introducing a tax discount for unincorporated small business	15.6
Reforming governance of registrable superannuation entities	13.2
Reducing the small business company tax rate	3.2
Implementing the recommendations of the 2014 OMARA review	2.9
Improving the taxation of employee share schemes	1.3
Other minor measures featured in this overview	0.0
Other measures not featured in this overview¹	16.5
Total	75.9

¹ Captures gross regulatory costs that are not separately reported in this Repeal Day Overview due primarily to the small impact of individual measures that raise compliance costs, and the large number of measures.

2. Key regulatory savings reported or announced since the 2015 Autumn Repeal Day

This section provides a summary of the key regulatory savings reported or announced since the 2015 Autumn Repeal Day that reduce the cost of complying with Commonwealth regulations. This will include changes to regulations that reduce burden, as well as decisions that impact on Government programmes and assistance. For example, when programmes cease, these initiatives may reduce compliance costs for voluntarily-participating businesses and individuals.

Agriculture and Water Resources	Modernising service delivery in the field
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In June 2015 the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources completed a pilot to test the use of mobile devices in the field to reduce paperwork and double handling of information. • These devices improve access to information for staff working in the field, leading to a faster release of goods imported into Australia and decreased interaction time with the Department for importers, Customs Brokers or their agents. For example, clearance of some imported goods has gone from 24 to 48 hours, to almost on-the-spot clearances, saving importers valuable time and storage fees. Rollout of the devices to the remaining field staff commenced in early July 2015 and will conclude in December 2015. • The Department of Agriculture and Water Resources has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$8.7 million in compliance costs.
Agriculture and Water Resources	Reducing record keeping requirements for our primary producers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 16 June 2015 the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources announced tax depreciation measures arising from the Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper. • Effective 12 May 2015 the measures allow all primary producers, regardless of turnover, to immediately write off capital expenditure on fencing and water facilities, as well as providing a three-year write-off period for fodder storage assets. This will help to reduce record keeping and costs for our primary producers. • The Office of Best Practice Regulation (OBPR) has agreed that this will lead to an annual saving of \$1.4 million in compliance costs.
Agriculture and Water Resources	Reducing regulation of lower-risk stock and pet foods

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On 5 March 2015 changes to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Regulations 1995 (agvet) commenced. The changes better align the registration requirements for stock and pet food with the risks associated with their ingredients and intended use patterns. These products have a well-characterised and manageable risk profile, so need not be subject to the same intensive assessment process as other high-risk agvet chemical products. This change will exclude certain types of animal feed for both stock and companion animals from the scope of the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority's (APVMA) regulation. For example, calorie controlled feed for overweight companion animals will no longer require assessment and registration by the APVMA. The OBPR has agreed that this will lead to an annual saving of \$7.9 million in compliance costs.
Attorney-General's	Improving and reducing data reporting requirements for insolvency practitioners
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On 1 June 2015 the Australian Financial Security Authority (AFSA) introduced a new Annual Estate Return (AER) online lodgement system for insolvency practitioners. The new system halves the time and cost placed on registered trustees and controlling trustees who submit nearly 24,000 AERs. Trustees and administrators are now able to lodge AERs for processing throughout the year, alleviating time pressures and giving them more flexibility. Only data that is needed by AFSA for operational and reporting purposes is now requested. The new AER online system also allows over 80% of registered insolvency practitioners to extract data from their own software (MYOB, Core, or built in house) to auto-fill AERs and for relevant data to be imported into a spreadsheet. Further, insolvency practitioners will have the option to lodge AERs in bulk to AFSA. The Attorney-General's Department has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$3.6 million in compliance costs.
Communications and the Arts	Supporting multi-technology rollouts of high speed broadband
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In August 2015 the Minister for Communications made two instruments: the Telecommunications Amendment (Designated Overhead Lines) Regulation 2015 and the Telecommunications (Low-Impact Facilities) Determination 1997 (Amendment No. 3 of 2015). These changes better support the efficient rollout of high speed broadband using multiple technologies. The amendments provide NBN Co and other carriers with greater flexibility to deploy high-speed broadband infrastructure like fibre-to-the-node (FTTN), fibre-to-the-basement (FTTB) and hybrid fibre-coaxial cable (HFC), as well as fibre-to-the-premises (FTTP), which in turn enables cheaper construction and reduced delay costs for NBN Co. The Department of Communications has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$5.2 million in compliance costs.
Communications and the Arts	Increasing flexibility for Australia Post

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On 3 March 2015 the Australian Government announced reforms to modernise Australia Post. These reforms will introduce a two-speed letter delivery service comprising a Priority Service and a Regular Service, with the latter permitting letters to be delivered on average every second business day. The reforms, which will reduce the need for overnight processing and facilitate increased automation of sorting, will allow Australia Post to operate with greater efficiency and flexibility in an environment which has experienced rapid declines in letter volumes and revenue. The OBPR has agreed that this will lead to an annual saving of \$187 million in compliance costs.
Communications and the Arts	Increasing telecommunications competition in new developments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since 1 March 2015 new arrangements have applied to the provision of telecommunications infrastructure in new developments. These new arrangements, as set out in the Telecommunications in New Developments policy, will allow NBN Co to charge for the provision of telecommunications infrastructure in new developments. Previous arrangements unduly tilted the playing field against private infrastructure providers who had to compete against NBN Co, which provided infrastructure at no charge to developers. The arrangements also constrained NBN Co in that it could not directly recover its costs. By allowing NBN Co to charge for infrastructure, alternative providers now have the ability and incentive to compete, putting downward pressure on costs and encouraging innovation. The OBPR has agreed that this will lead to an annual saving of \$58.8 million in compliance costs.
Defence	Simplifying Defence contracting requirements
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In July 2015 the Department of Defence updated the Australian Standard for Defence Contracting (ASDEFCON) template for supporting major platforms such as ships, aircraft and vehicle fleets. The new template will reduce the amount of information tenderers are required to provide by tailoring tender application forms to the nature, scale and risk of the services being procured. This will reduce the page count for the related tender response plans and cut tender costs. The Department of Defence has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$5.5 million in compliance costs.
Defence	Strengthening Australia's export controls to align them with international best practice
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On 2 April 2015 the <i>Defence Trade Controls Amendment Act 2015</i> received Royal Assent. The Act amended the <i>Defence Trade Controls Act 2012</i> to implement a more risk-based approach to Australia's export control regime. The amendments will more closely regulate entities involved in supplying controlled technology, and explicitly exclude others who may have previously been inadvertently captured by the Act. The Department of Defence has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$35.4 million in compliance costs.

Education & Training	<p>Enhancing the quality of Australia’s international education services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 17 September 2015 the Minister for Education and Training introduced the Education Services for Overseas Students Amendment (Streamlining Regulation) Bill 2015. • The Bill, along with other amendments to the <i>Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000</i>, will remove unnecessary and duplicative regulatory requirements on education institutions and students. It will align domestic and international regulatory arrangements, and streamline the processes around registration, reducing the burden on providers. The measures included in the Bill will remove the requirement to report student defaults within a very short period; remove the requirement for non-exempt (generally private) institutions to maintain a designated account for tuition fees paid prior to course commencement; and make the current limit on the collection of tuition fees prior to a student commencing a course more flexible to enable student choice. • The Department of Education & Training has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$75.9 million in compliance costs.
Education & Training	<p>Extending registration periods for registered training organisations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 3 April 2015 amendments to the <i>National Vocational and Education Training Regulator Act 2011</i> commenced. • The changes extend the maximum registration period for Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) from five to seven years. This reduces the burden placed on RTOs by reducing the frequency of re-registration audits and enables the national vocational education and training regulator – the Australian Skills Quality Authority – to redirect resources towards the early detection of non-compliance. • The Department of Education and Training has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$3.9 million in compliance costs.
Education & Training	<p>Promoting excellence in higher education learning and teaching</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 12 May 2015 the Minister announced the redesign of the Promotion of Excellence in Learning and Teaching in Higher Education programme (PELTHE). • The Government will invite bids from universities to run a new \$28 million institute to promote high quality teaching and learning in Australian universities. From 1 July 2016 the new institute will allow the sector itself to lead the promotion of excellence and creativity in learning and teaching. The number of grant and award categories will be reduced, with the focus shifting to those considered to have the greatest potential impact for the sector. • The OBPR has agreed that this will lead to an annual saving of \$4.4 million in compliance costs.

Employment	Streamlining the Seasonal Worker Programme
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 18 June 2015 the Government announced changes to the Seasonal Worker Programme as part of its Northern Australia White paper “Our North, Our Future: A Vision for Developing Northern Australia”. • Since 1 July 2015 new arrangements have been put in place to: remove the minimum stay requirement of fourteen weeks; simplify cost sharing arrangements by combining the employer’s contribution to each seasonal worker’s international and domestic airfare to a total of \$500; streamline application and reporting processes; and simplify the delivery of on-arrival and pre-return briefings. • The OBPR has agreed that this will lead to an annual saving of \$2.0 million per year in compliance costs. 	
Environment	Reform of the Television and Computer Recycling Scheme
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 10 June 2015 the Minister for the Environment announced amendments to the Product Stewardship (Televisions and Computers) Regulations 2011 to commence 1 July 2015. • The amendments improve the operation of the scheme and reduce the regulatory burden on industry by: improving the way television and computer waste is estimated to take account of the trend to lighter-weight products; and increasing immediate recycling targets but decreasing them in future years. • The OBPR has agreed that this will lead to an annual saving of \$7.1 million in compliance costs. 	
Environment	Reforming the Renewable Energy Target
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 27 May 2015 the Minister for the Environment introduced the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment Bill 2015. The Bill received Royal Assent on 26 June 2015. • Amendments to the <i>Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000</i> will readjust the amount of renewable-source electricity required in each year from 2016 to 2030. The key benefit to business will arise from the readjustment in the Renewable Energy Target from 41,000 GigaWatt hours to 33,000 GigaWatt hours by 2020 and the full exemption from liability for businesses carrying out emissions-intensive trade-exposed activities. • The <i>Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000</i> places a legal requirement on liable entities (typically electricity retailers) to surrender renewable energy certificates (RECs) to the Clean Energy Regulator. The readjustment in the RET means that annual purchases of RECs by liable entities will decrease by around 5.4 million. • The OBPR has agreed that this will lead to an annual saving of \$519.6 million in compliance costs. 	

2. Regulatory savings reported or announced since 2015 Autumn Repeal Day

Finance	Further reforming procurement and grant administration
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In 2015 the Department of Finance streamlined and standardised tender and contract documentation associated with panel arrangements.• Building on the Government Contracting Suite, standard deed, contract, work order and tender documentation for panel arrangements have been developed. Businesses bidding for inclusion on a new panel will benefit from standardised templates, reducing administrative effort and legal costs. The new suite of standard panel documentation will be available from 1 January 2016.• The Department of Finance has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$15.7 million in compliance costs.
Foreign Affairs & Trade	Reducing the time spent applying for a new passport
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On 1 October 2015 the amended and remade Australian Passports Determination 2015 commenced.• The amendments will reduce the cost and time spent applying for a new passport in certain circumstances by: issuing ten-year validity passports to child applicants aged 16 or 17; removing fees for lost and stolen passports; and providing the option of a replacement passport where a passport is reported lost or stolen.• The OBPR has agreed that this will lead to an annual saving of \$5.3 million in compliance costs.
Health	Reducing the burden of the industrial chemicals regulatory framework
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of 2015 to 16 Budget the Government announced that the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) will move to a more proportionate risk-based framework to regulate industrial chemicals, including chemicals imported into Australia.• The reforms will allow for greater use of international assessment material by industry and NICNAS, leading to faster entry to market for safer chemicals that have a lower anticipated risk to human health and/or the environment. Allowing for greater use of international assessment material where criteria for the adoption of international standards and risk assessments can be met will also save industry time and effort. Removal of the current legislative requirement for industry to annually report on chemicals introduced under exemptions and permits will also result in substantial regulatory savings. Implementation of the reforms has commenced and will be fully implemented by September 2018.• The Department of Health has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$22.7 million in compliance costs.

2. Regulatory savings reported or announced since 2015 Autumn Repeal Day

Health	<p>Removing the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) subsidy for non-essential over-the-counter medicines (Sixth Community Pharmacy Agreement)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 27 May 2015 the Minister for Health announced that as part of the Sixth Community Pharmacy Agreement the Government would delist certain non-essential over-the-counter (OTC) brands of drugs from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), from 1 January 2016. • Nearly 12 million scripts a year will no longer be required. Doctors and pharmacists registered under the PBS will no longer be required to prescribe and dispense the delisted OTCs, saving them time and effort. The increase in hours saved will allow for more efficient and effective interactions with patients. Meanwhile, patients will save time and effort by accessing more OTC medicines without a prescription. • The OBPR has agreed that this will lead to an annual saving of \$34.9 million in compliance costs. 	
Human Services / Health	<p>Easier and faster reconciliation of Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme claims</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In April 2015 the Department of Human Services improved the process for Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) approved suppliers to submit claims to the Department. • Over 5,600 PBS approved suppliers were previously required to submit hardcopy prescriptions to the Department of Human Services as part of a claim process. Ceasing the requirement for approved suppliers to bundle and submit paper prescriptions to the Department now saves time, postage costs and enables easier and faster reconciliation of claims. • The Department of Human Services and Department of Health have estimated this will lead to an annual saving of \$18.8 million in compliance costs. 	
Human Services	<p>Faster confirmation of concession entitlements</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In May 2015 the Department of Human Services improved the process for businesses wishing to access electronic customer details when providing a concession rebate or service. • The Department of Human Services can now approve a new category of business to receive customer information electronically. An estimated 40,000 customers each year will no longer need to manually verify their details with these concession providers to receive a concession or service. • The Department of Human Services has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$6.8 million in compliance costs. 	

Human Services	Improving claims processes and online functionality
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2015 the Department of Human Services made more of its services available online. • A range of new online claims and improvements to existing online claims will benefit customers by providing a more tailored service, including through using dynamic questions to ensure only questions relevant to a customer’s circumstances are asked. Over 40,000 customers claiming Mobility Allowance and Sickness Allowance now have access to an online claim and over 60,000 customers transferring to Age Pension are able to benefit from an improved online claim process. • More customers can now notify the Department of Human Services of more changes in circumstances online without having to call the department or visit a service centre. For example, over 400,000 customers can now update their managed investment and real estate details online. • The Department of Human Services has estimated that these measures and other improvements to service delivery will lead to an annual saving of \$24.2 million in compliance costs. 	
Human Services	Improving the Proof of Identity process for Centrelink customers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In May 2015 the Department of Human Services assigned existing Centrelink customers with sufficient identity information a “confirmed identity status”. • Centrelink customers with a confirmed identity status will no longer need to provide identity documentation when claiming a new payment, reducing the need for an estimated 180,000 customers to visit a service centre each year. • The Department of Human Services has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$4.4 million in compliance costs. 	
Human Services	Launching the Medicare Bulk Bill Webclaim
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In June 2015 the Department of Human Services launched Medicare Bulk Bill Webclaim. • This measure reduces administrative burden by allowing health professionals to submit Medicare bulk bill claims online, as an alternative to the current paper-based channel. • The Department of Human Services has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$16.8 million in compliance costs. 	
Immigration & Border Protection	Introducing the Seamless Traveller initiative
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 12 May 2015 the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection announced the Seamless Traveller initiative, which will benefit travellers and industry, particularly air and seaport operators. • The Seamless Traveller initiative will see the roll out of new passenger processing technology at air and sea ports. New biometric capability will reduce manual processes allowing a fast, seamless self-processing experience for up to 90 per cent of travellers. • The OBPR has agreed that this will lead to an annual saving of \$32.9 million in compliance costs. 	

2. Regulatory savings reported or announced since 2015 Autumn Repeal Day

Immigration & Border Protection	Simplifying the student visa programme
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 16 June 2015 the Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection and the Minister for Education and Training announced a series of regulatory reforms to improve the student visa programme. • The number of student visa subclasses will be reduced from eight to two and a new single immigration risk framework for all international students will be introduced. All education providers, including smaller providers, will now have access to streamlined visa processing for at least some countries. In addition, streamlined visa processing will apply to all education sectors and course types. • The Department of Immigration and Border Protection has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$24.1 million in compliance costs. 	
Industry, Innovation & Science	Raising the Research and Development (R&D) Tax Incentive threshold
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 5 March 2015 the Tax Laws Amendment (Research and Development) Bill 2015 received Royal Assent. • The Act, which amends the <i>Income Tax Assessment Act 1997</i>, introduces an annual threshold of \$100 million of eligible R&D expenditure for which companies can claim a concessional tax offset under the R&D Tax Incentive. For expenditure beyond \$100 million, companies can claim a non-refundable tax offset at the corporate tax rate. • The Department of Industry, Innovation and Science has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$118.3 million in compliance costs. 	
Industry, Innovation & Science	Revising the Enhanced Project By-law Scheme guidelines
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 26 June 2015 the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science introduced revised Enhanced Project By-law Scheme (EPBS) Policy and Administrative Guidelines. • The revised guidelines reduce the regulatory burden on businesses by allowing Australian Industry Participation (AIP) plans approved under the <i>Australian Jobs Act 2013</i> to be used by businesses when applying for tariff concessions under EPBS. Businesses subject to the Act are no longer required to develop, implement and report on a separate AIP plan for EPBS purposes, and it has also streamlined approval processes for these applicants. • The Department of Industry, Innovation and Science has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$1.9 million in compliance costs. 	

2. Regulatory savings reported or announced since 2015 Autumn Repeal Day

Infrastructure & Regional Development	Introducing flexible Explosive Trace Detection screening arrangements at Australian airports
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following a trial in 2013 the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development served amended aviation screening notices on eligible screening authorities on 19 November 2014. • The amended notices have provided airports with the option to conduct Explosive Trace Detection (ETD) screening operations at the front of a screening point and to test persons in batches of up to three persons per ETD test. Industry will benefit from reduced staffing requirements and costs, and passengers will save time during the screening process. The improved screening at airports will be achieved while maintaining high security standards. • The Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$30.2 million in compliance costs.
Infrastructure & Regional Development	Increasing flexibility in X-ray Loader requirements at Australian airports
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 27 January 2015 the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development advised security-controlled airports of greater flexibility around the number of X-ray Loader personnel required for security screening. • Changes remove the expectation of one X-ray Loader personnel per screening lane under current Government guidelines and allow screening authorities to choose to have a Loader cover more than one lane. Current requirements for a qualified screening officer to perform the Loader role and associated responsibilities will be retained to maintain high security standards. Industry can benefit from reduced staffing requirements and associated costs. • The Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$9.9 million in compliance costs.
Infrastructure & Regional Development	Reforming coastal shipping (coastal trading)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 25 June 2015 the Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development introduced the Shipping Legislation Amendment Bill 2015 into Parliament. The Bill is currently before the Senate. • The Bill will implement major reforms to the regulatory framework for coastal shipping by replacing the current three-tiered licensing system under the <i>Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Act 2012</i> with a single permit. This simplified permit system will reduce costs to business and enhance access to competitive shipping services. Foreign-flagged ships operating under a permit will be required to have two senior Australian crew, and meet Part B of the Seagoing Industry Award if they intend to or engage in coastal shipping for more than 183 days in a permit year. • The Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$21.4 million in compliance costs.
Prime Minister & Cabinet	Extending grant funding arrangements

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between November 2014 and January 2015 the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet extended more than 900 existing funding agreements for frontline Indigenous services programmes. • The one off (six month) extension was designed to support the transition of existing programmes to the new Indigenous Advancement Strategy arrangements and negated the need for these entities to reapply for funding, which had previously been required on a calendar-year basis. • The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet estimated that this led to a saving of \$3.7 million in compliance costs.
<p>Prime Minister & Cabinet</p>	<p>Improving arrangements for Indigenous procurements</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 25 May 2015 the Minister for Indigenous Affairs and the Minister for Finance announced improved arrangements for Indigenous procurements. • New procurement arrangements will make it easier for Indigenous businesses to integrate into current and future supply chains, and increase efficiency for both public and private sector organisations to source Indigenous businesses. Under the new arrangements obligations under the Indigenous Opportunities Policy (IOP) such as preparing IOP plans and reporting on them on an annual basis have been removed. The introduction of 'Supply Nation', a listing of Indigenous businesses that can be viewed and searched online, has streamlined the process of registering and identifying an Indigenous business. • The OBPR has agreed that this will lead to an annual saving of \$0.2 million in compliance costs.
<p>Social Services</p>	<p>Improving access for NDIS participants and providers</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 12 May 2015 the Minister for Social Services announced funding for a new Information and Communications Technology (ICT) system to support full delivery of the National Disability Insurance Scheme. • The new ICT system will streamline access to support services for over 460,000 participants and service providers, and deliver enhanced data to federal, state and territory governments. New online self-service capabilities will improve customer service and make it easier for disability service providers to provide individualised, flexible and responsive service arrangements for participants, as well as facilitating quicker and easier payment to service providers. • The Department of Social Services has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$31.4 million in compliance costs.

Social Services	A fairer pension system
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the 2015-16 Budget, the Government announced amendments to pension asset test parameters to improve the fairness and affordability of the pension system. • From 1 January 2017 the asset free area for pensioners will increase, allowing around 170,000 pensioners with moderate assets to receive a full or increased pension. At the same time, the asset test taper rate will increase from \$1.50 to \$3. As a result of these changes a number of individuals with significant asset holdings will no longer qualify for a Government pension and will not have to report their personal and financial circumstances to the Department of Human Services. • The Department of Social Services has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$7.3 million in compliance costs.
Social Services	Simplifying asset tests for Youth Allowance and ABSTUDY recipients
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the 2015-16 Budget, the Government announced a simpler means test for Youth Allowance and ABSTUDY Living Allowance, that aligns more closely with the Family Tax Benefit Part A (FTB Part A) family income test. • From 1 January 2016, around 200,000 families who are subject to the Family Assets Test and around 30,000 families who are subject to the Family Actual Means Test will benefit when the two tests are removed. Young people moving from FTB Part A to an individual income support payment will no longer receive inconsistent levels of support. In addition, simpler requirements mean that families will no longer need to seek financial advice to complete the required paperwork. • The Department of Social Services has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$26.6 million in compliance costs.
Treasury	Accelerated depreciation for small business entities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 28 May 2015 the Minister for Small Business introduced the Tax Laws Amendment (Small Business Measure No.2) Bill 2015. The Bill received Royal Assent on 22 June 2015. • This Act amended the small business simplified depreciation rules, to increase the threshold for immediate deductibility for capital assets. Small businesses can now immediately deduct business assets costing less than \$20,000 (Previously the threshold was \$1,000). These arrangements commenced on 12 May 2015 and continue until the end of June 2017. This measure reduces the record-keeping requirements for small businesses, which will not have to maintain depreciation records on assets below the threshold. • The OBPR has agreed that this measure will lead to an annual saving of \$6.1 million in compliance costs.

Treasury	Making ASIC laws work better
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the June and September quarters, the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) granted relief from provisions of the <i>Corporations Act 2001</i>, the <i>National Consumer Credit Protection Act 2009</i> or the <i>National Consumer Protection (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Act 2009</i> with compliance cost implications in 77 cases. • Businesses frequently approach ASIC for assistance to help make the law work better for them. ASIC uses its discretion to vary or set aside certain requirements of the law where there is a net regulatory benefit or where ASIC can facilitate business or cut red tape without harming other stakeholders, and results in ongoing savings for individual business. • The Treasury has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$9.1 million in compliance costs.
Treasury	Clarifying requirements for financial advisers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In April 2015 the Tax Practitioners Board issued two documents to explain the operation of the law. • The first document outlines what is required when an individual, partnership or company applies for registration as a tax (financial) adviser under the transitional option. The second document outlines what the Board will accept for the purposes of meeting the 'relevant experience' requirement under the standard registration option for tax (financial) advisers. These documents will make it easier for tax (financial) advisers to understand their obligations and to register. • The Treasury has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$2.5 million in compliance costs.
Treasury	Enhancing communication through digital disclosure
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 28 July 2015 the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) announced its release of the Regulatory Guide 221 <i>Facilitating digital financial services disclosure</i>. • The guidance and waivers will facilitate businesses providing disclosures through digital channels and encourage innovative communication of information about financial products and services. It is assumed that 80% of businesses will take up digital disclosure, resulting in savings being felt through lower printing and postage costs to business, as well as some time and storage savings for consumers. • The OBPR has agreed that this will lead to an annual saving of \$299.1 million in compliance costs.

Treasury	Direct reporting of Private Health Insurance data
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2014 the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) and the Department of Health worked together to change reporting of Private Health Insurance (PHI) data to the ATO. • Previously, health insurers reported their customers' data to the ATO through the Department of Human Services (Medicare). Health insurers are now required to report their customers' PHI data directly to the ATO for Tax Time 2015 and onwards. Direct reporting has enabled faster processing of PHI data to pre-fill tax returns, allowing health insurers to know, much sooner, whether their reported data passes or fails the ATO's validation process. This will assist insurers to provide corrected, replacement data more quickly. Direct reporting will also reduce the security risk of physical media being lost. • The Treasury has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$2.4 million in compliance costs. 	
Treasury	Enhancing ATO online services for individuals and sole traders
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In July 2015 the Australian Tax Office (ATO) upgraded its online services, providing individuals and sole traders with a more complete set of options to manage their tax affairs in a digital environment. • Individuals operating in business such as sole traders who have a myGov account can now manage their activity statement and PAYG instalment obligations within ATO Online. These services are an alternative to using AUSkey and the Business Portal. • Over four million Australians have linked their myGov account with the ATO. They can now update their contact details including email addresses, authorised contacts and financial institution details online. The improvements to ATO Online deliver a customised home page with targeted messages and alerts such as lodgment and payment due dates specific to the client's circumstances. The improvements include the ability to view income tax and study support loan account transactions and sort transactions in date ranges, and the ability to forecast General Interest Charge (GIC). • The Treasury has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$109.1 million in compliance costs. 	

Treasury	Enhancing Australian Taxation Office integration with the myGov inbox
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In March 2015 the ATO commenced issuing electronic correspondence to individuals who have linked their myGov inbox to the ATO. • Affected taxpayers can now receive ATO correspondence electronically to their myGov inbox, and no longer need to handle paper correspondence or retain paper notices for record keeping purposes. Tax practitioners are given access to digital correspondence that has been sent to their clients through myGov. For tax agents, having real time access to their clients' digital correspondence through the Tax Agent Portal means no more photocopying correspondence for record keeping purposes. Intermediaries will also no longer need to redirect notices and other ATO correspondence to their clients. • The Treasury has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$12.8 million in compliance costs. 	
Treasury	Further improving eForms and digital approaches to the 2021 Census
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 12 May 2015 the Treasurer announced \$250 million for business process and IT infrastructure upgrades for the Australian Bureau of Statistics. • The Government is investing to improve eForms and digital approaches to the 2021 Census, with the aim to make completing the Census faster and easier. New user friendly online forms will mean that each household completing the Census online in 2021 will take nearly 10 minutes less compared with completing the paper form. • The Treasury has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$5.0 million in compliance costs. 	
Treasury	Introducing flexibility in outbound correspondence via SMS and email
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In March 2015 the ATO delivered an enterprise solution for issuing non-secure and sensitive SMS or email from the ATO. This has enabled issuing of correspondence via email, SMS or letter depending on the client's circumstances. • Lodgment reminders issued as a paper correspondence are now being issued via multi-channel. Electronic delivery of lodgment reminders to eligible clients provides convenience and a contemporary experience. For clients with electronic addresses this initiative will replace a two page paper letter with a text message or a half page email. • The Treasury has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$5.9 million in compliance costs. 	

Treasury	Removing obligations on employers to offer choice of super fund to temporary residents
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 28 May 2015 the Minister for Small Business introduced the Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Amendment Bill 2015. The Bill received Royal Assent on 25 June 2015. • From 1 July 2015 employers no longer have to provide a standard choice form (which allows an employee to nominate their superannuation fund) to temporary resident employees within 28 days of commencing employment. This will reduce compliance costs for employers as they no longer have to provide temporary resident employees with a choice of fund form. Nor will employers need to allocate time trying to explain the importance of completing the form and how to do so. • Businesses that typically employ a high volume of temporary residents, such as those in the hospitality and agricultural industries, will experience the greatest reduction in compliance costs from not having to supply a standard choice form to their employees on a temporary resident visa. Temporary resident employees still retain the right to nominate a fund of their choosing if they wish to do so. • The OBPR has agreed that this will lead to an annual saving of \$22 million in compliance costs. 	
Treasury	Removing obligations on employers to re-offer choice of funds when funds merge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In May 2015 the Minister for Small Business introduced the Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Amendment Bill 2015. The Bill received Royal Assent on 25 June 2015. • Previously, employers were required to provide eligible employees a standard choice form within 28 days of becoming aware that a superannuation fund they were sending contributions to had merged with another fund. While employers would generally be advised of a merger, many employers, particularly small business employers, may have been unaware that they had an obligation to re-offer their eligible employees a choice by providing them with a standard choice form in this situation. • Since 1 July 2015 employers no longer have to re-offer a choice of fund form to an employee in this situation, thereby reducing compliance costs on employers. An employee whose fund has merged with another fund will still be able to nominate a fund of their choosing if they wish to do so. • The OBPR has agreed that this will lead to an annual saving of \$23.2 million in compliance costs. 	
Treasury	Streamlining individual income tax returns 2015 (myTax15)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In June 2015 enhancements were made to the 2014 myTax product to include more features and tax return labels. • This measure introduced a number of enhancements to income tax returns that will expand eligibility criteria and improve customer service. Individuals lodging their tax returns will benefit from having more pre-filled information, where possible. The save function will allow users to save a partially completed return and resume at a later time, and built-in checks will catch common mistakes. • The Treasury has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$57.4 million in compliance costs. 	
Treasury	Simplifying transfer pricing record keeping requirements

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- On 23 December 2014 the ATO released guidance about simplifying the transfer pricing record keeping requirements.
 - Eligible businesses can choose to use simplified transfer pricing record keeping options to reduce record keeping and compliance costs. Businesses that meet the eligibility criteria will disclose on the International Dealings Schedule the selection and application of these simplified options. Accordingly, once an option is selected and disclosed to the ATO, the relevant transfer pricing dealings will not be subject to ATO review. Options were available starting from 29 June 2013 for three consecutive income years.
 - The OBPR has agreed that this will lead to an annual saving of \$78.9 million in compliance costs.

Treasury

Improving unclaimed money requirements on authorised deposit-taking institutions

- On 13 August 2015 the Assistant Treasurer introduced the Banking Laws Amendment (Unclaimed Money) Bill 2015. The Bill received Royal Assent on 16 September 2015.
 - The Act extends the period before funds held by authorised deposit-taking institutions and life insurance providers are treated as unclaimed moneys and transferred to the Government from three to seven years. It also exempts specified accounts, such as childrens' accounts, from the provisions. The Act will reduce the regulatory burden on business and consumers by reducing the number of accounts that must be transferred to, and reclaimed from, the Government.
 - The OBPR has agreed that this will lead to an annual saving of \$35.9 million in compliance costs.
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3. Regulatory changes contained in stand-alone bills

Agriculture and Water Resources	Export Control Amendments (Quotas) Bill 2015
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources will introduce the Export Control Amendments (Quotas) Bill 2015. Following the commencement of the Japan Australia Economic Partnership Agreement on 15 January 2015, a temporary scheme, based on Government certificate provisions of the <i>Export Control Act 1982</i>, was put in place to include quotas that were not covered under the commodity-specific scheme. This measure seeks to move, without change, the Agriculture tariff rate quota legislation regime into the <i>Export Control Act 1982</i>, and thereafter to repeal the existing legislation at a later date. The proposed Bill will include a head of power to administer tariff rate quotas and also a power to repeal existing legislation. The Department of Agriculture and Water Resources has estimated that there will be no change in compliance costs as the changes are machinery in nature.
Attorney-General's	Amending Acts 1990 to 1999 Repeal Bill 2015
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of 2015 Spring Repeal Day, the Assistant Minister for Productivity will introduce the Amending Acts 1990 to 1999 Repeal Bill 2015, which will repeal approximately 877 amending and repeal Acts made between 1990 and 1999 across all portfolios. Repealing amending Acts reduces regulatory burden by making access to the current law simpler for both businesses and individuals. This Bill builds on the Amending Acts Repeal Bills from previous Repeal Days, which together have repealed over 2,500 amending Acts. The Attorney-General's Department has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$0.6 million in compliance costs.
Attorney-General's	Statute Law Revision Bill (No. 3) 2015
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of the 2015 Autumn Repeal Day, the Assistant Minister for Productivity will introduce the Statute Law Revision Bill (No. 3) 2015. This Bill will correct technical errors as well as clarify and modernise the language of approximately 220 Acts. It will clarify the status of laws by repealing obsolete legislation and will remove confusion for users by amending incorrect or out of date provisions. The Attorney-General's Department has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$50,000 in compliance costs.

3. Regulatory changes contained in stand-alone bills

Immigration & Border Protection	Ceasing Australian visa labels
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection introduced the Migration Legislation Amendment (Cessation of Visa Labels) Bill 2015.• On 1 September 2015 the Migration Amendment (Visa Labels) Regulation 2015 amended the Migration Regulations 1994 (the Regulations) to repeal Division 2.4 of Part 2 of the Regulations. This removed the remaining legal obligation to issue a visa label at a person's request and on their payment of the visa evidence charge. Visa labels have been made redundant by the digital checking of visa details now available to visa holders, registered Australian organisations and airline staff. Ceasing Australian visa labels removes unnecessary expense, delays and inconvenience for clients and third-party stakeholders, and completes the Department of Immigration and Border Protection's long standing visa label reduction strategy.• The Bill implements the final steps in the Government's policy of transitioning to label-free visas by repealing the <i>Migration (Visa Evidence) Charge Act 2012</i> and amending provisions in the <i>Migration Act 1958</i> relating to visa labels.• The OBPR has agreed that this will lead to an annual saving of \$2.9 million in compliance costs.	
Treasury	Treasury Legislation Amendment (Repeal Day) Bill 2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On Repeal Day, the Minister for Small Business and Assistant Treasurer will introduce the Treasury Legislation Amendment (Repeal Day) Bill 2015.• The Bill proposes a number of changes to Treasury laws, including regulatory changes to: simplify and reduce the harshness of the superannuation guarantee charge; reduce red tape on terminally ill or injured people accessing certain ATO-administered superannuation monies; remove an additional lost member reporting requirements for superannuation funds; modify 'in receivership' disclosure and reporting obligations for trustee companies and other corporations; and repeal inoperative acts and provisions of the tax law.• The Treasury has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$2.8 million in compliance costs.	

4. Regulatory changes contained in the Omnibus Repeal Day (Spring 2015) Bill

Agriculture and Water Resources	Repealing the <i>Rural Adjustment Act 1992</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, the <i>Rural Adjustment Act 1992</i> will be repealed, resulting in the termination of the National Rural Advisory Council (NRAC). • The objectives of the Act were to foster the development of a more profitable farm sector and to improve the sector's competitiveness in a sustainable manner. Obsolete provisions relating to the Rural Adjustment Scheme and the Farm Business Improvement Programme have either ceased or have been superseded by new drought support. • Repealing the Act will also result in the NRAC being abolished. As part of the Government's commitment to its Smaller Government Reform Agenda, the positions of NRAC members were allowed to lapse or were revoked in June 2015. Its functions are now covered by the Agricultural Industry Advisory Council.
Agriculture and Water Resources	Repealing the <i>Wool International Act 1993</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, the <i>Wool International Act 1993</i> will be repealed. • This Act provided equity to wool growers in respect of contributions made to WoolStock Australia Limited (WoolStock Ltd) through payment of a wool tax and gave registered equity holders a right to a share in the surplus money of WoolStock Ltd. • WoolStock Ltd was wound up and delisted from the Australian Stock Exchange in 2001 following a major reduction in the wool stockpile.
Agriculture and Water Resources	Repealing the <i>Wool International Privatisation Act 1999</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, the <i>Wool International Privatisation Act 1999</i> will be repealed. • The Act provided for the privatisation of the statutory authority Wool International and the creation of Woolstock Australia Limited (WoolStock Ltd). • The privatisation process is now complete and the privatised company, WoolStock Ltd, ceased to exist in 2001.

4. Regulatory changes contained in the Omnibus Repeal Day (Spring 2015) Bill

Agriculture and Water Resources	Amending the <i>Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, the <i>Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994</i> will be amended.• Currently the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) must notify Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) if a proposal for the APVMA to approve a label or active constituent, register a chemical product, vary an approval, registration or label or issue a permit, could require a variation to the Maximum Residue Limits Standard. The current notice includes all of the relevant particulars of the chemical products concerned, as well as information that is not relevant to the Maximum Residue Limits Standard. The amendments will reduce administrative complexity by removing unnecessary information so that the particulars provided are only those required by FSANZ.	
Agriculture and Water Resources	Abolishing the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority Board
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) Board will be abolished by repealing Divisions 2, 3 and 4 of Part 3 of the <i>Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992</i>.• The APVMA Advisory Board was established under the Act to provide advice and make recommendations to the APVMA CEO. In consultation with the APVMA CEO, it has been determined that existing mechanisms for consultations under APVMA's legislation would result in a more responsive and cost-effective advice mechanisms than the continuation of the advisory board.	
Agriculture and Water Resources	Abolishing the Fishing Industry Policy Council
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, Part 3 of the <i>Fisheries Administration Act 1991</i>, which establishes the Fishing Industry Policy Council, will be repealed.• The Council has not convened since its enabling legislation was enacted in 1991. The Department of Agriculture consulted industry stakeholder organisations about the repeal and no stakeholder concerns were raised. Abolishing the Council is also consistent with the recent recommendations made by the National Commission of Audit for rationalising government bodies.	
Agriculture and Water Resources	Remove obsolete provisions from the <i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, Subsections 63(1) and 64(1) of the <i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997</i> (AMLI Act), which are obsolete, will be repealed.• Part 3, Division 3 of the AMLI Act provided payments for industry bodies. Subsections 63(1) and 64(1) of the Act provide that payments to marketing bodies and industry bodies are based on provisions of a number of Acts that were repealed by the <i>Primary Industries Levies and Charges (Consequential Amendments) Act 1999</i>, and ceased to have effect on 1 July 1999. Therefore Subsections 63(1) and 64(1) no longer operate. Payments of the amounts specified in the repealed Acts were finalised in 2008.	

4. Regulatory changes contained in the Omnibus Repeal Day (Spring 2015) Bill

Attorney-General's	Repealing the <i>Ordinances and Regulations (Notification) Act 1978</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, the <i>Ordinances and Regulations (Notification) Act 1978</i> (the ORN Act) will be repealed.• Hard copies of certain statutory instruments were not made available for purchase at the time the instruments were made. As a result, there was a possibility that those instruments could be found to be invalid. The ORN Act was enacted to address this situation and ensure those statutory instruments remained valid.• The Act is unlikely to have ongoing utility. The publication of legislative instruments is now dealt with by the <i>Legislative Instruments Act 2003</i> which requires that legislative instruments are made publicly available by being registered online on the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments. The Register contains all legislative instruments that are currently in force.
Communications and the Arts	Amend the <i>Broadcasting Services Act 1992</i> - National Indigenous TV Limited
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, Section 212 of the <i>Broadcasting Services Act 1992</i> will be amended.• This amendment will remove references to National Indigenous TV Limited (NITV) which are redundant now that the Special Broadcasting Service (SBS) has assumed television production and supply activities previously undertaken by NITV.
Communications and the Arts	Amendments relating to publication requirements
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, the <i>Broadcasting Services Act 1992</i> will be amended to modernise publication requirements with respect to notices that the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) is required to publish in the Government Gazette following the making, variation or revocation of certain standards.• The amendments will replace Gazettal with a requirement to publish on ACMA's website and in one or more forms that are readily accessible to the public. This will provide ACMA with increased flexibility to choose a method of publication that is most appropriate to reach the target audience, thereby making it easier for stakeholders to stay abreast of regulatory changes.
Communications and the Arts	Amend various Acts to remove duplicative consultation requirements
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, the <i>Broadcasting Services Act 1992</i>, <i>Interactive Gambling Act 2001</i>, <i>Radiocommunications Act 1992</i> and the <i>Telecommunications Act 1997</i> will be amended.• The provisions to be repealed require rule-makers to consult stakeholders prior to making certain legislative instruments. The repealed consultation provisions are considered unnecessary in light of Section 17 of the <i>Legislative Instruments Act 2003</i>, which requires a rule-maker, subject to limited exceptions, to be satisfied that appropriate and reasonably practicable consultation has been undertaken prior to making a legislative instrument.

4. Regulatory changes contained in the Omnibus Repeal Day (Spring 2015) Bill

Education & Training	<p>Repeal of <i>Skilling Australia's Workforce Act 2005</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, the <i>Skilling Australia's Workforce Act 2005</i> (the SAW Act) will be repealed. The Act enabled funding to be made available for the Government's National Training Arrangements over the 2005-08 calendar years to the states. This function has now been superseded by the National Agreements for Skills and Workforce Development, and all payments under the SAW Act have been made with no further financial actions needed to be undertaken, the Act is now redundant and suitable for repeal.
Environment	<p>Removing unintended consent requirements under the Emissions Reduction Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This measure amends Subsection 28A(1) of the <i>Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Act 2011</i> (the CFI Act) to correct a minor technical error in the drafting of the <i>Carbon Farming Initiative Amendment Act 2014</i> by replacing the term 'offsets project' with the defined term 'sequestration offsets project'. The amendment will limit the need to obtain consents of eligible interest holders to sequestration offsets projects only, as originally intended and previously provided for by the CFI Act.
Environment	<p>Amending references to strategic assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This measure amends Section 170CA of the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (the EPBC Act) which incorrectly makes a reference to strategic assessments being a process that occurs after a controlled action decision. This technical amendment corrects the existing inaccuracy and continues to enable the Minister to determine the amount of fees that may be charged for a strategic assessment. The change will provide clarity, resolve uncertainty and does not impose any additional burden or impost.
Environment	<p>Correcting an error in definition of "assessment documentation"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This measure amends the definition of 'assessment documentation' in Sections 133 and 136 of the EPBC Act to ensure the Sections are consistent with the documentation already required to be produced by proponents under assessment on preliminary documentation in accordance with Subsection 95(2) or 95A(3) of the EPBC Act. This measure provides clarity and resolves uncertainty and does not impose any additional burden or impost.
Environment	<p>Amending the requirement for the Minister to publish a decision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 74A of the EPBC Act will be amended to remove redundant and inaccurate publishing and notice requirements. The Minister is not required to make a decision to accept a referral under Section 74A(1) and so the requirement under Section 74A(4) that the Minister must publish a copy of the decision to accept a referral is redundant. Under Section 74(3) of the EPBC Act the Minister will continue to be required to publish all referrals on the Department of the Environment website for public comment.
Finance	<p>Repealing Appropriations Acts</p>

4. Regulatory changes contained in the Omnibus Repeal Day (Spring 2015) Bill

- As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, several annual Appropriation Acts are proposed for repeal. Amounts appropriated by these Acts are largely exhausted, reduced, no longer required, or, to a minor extent, will be considered for re-appropriation through future Appropriation Bills. Entities have been informed of these proposed repeals.
 - The following 2012-2013 Acts will be repealed:
 - *Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2012-2013*
 - *Appropriation Act (No. 2) 2012-2013*
 - *Appropriation Act (No. 3) 2012-2013*
 - *Appropriation Act (No. 4) 2012-2013*
 - *Appropriation (Implementation of the Report of the Expert Panel on Asylum Seekers) Act (No. 1) 2012-2013*
 - *Appropriation (Implementation of the Report of the Expert Panel on Asylum Seekers) Act (No. 2) 2012-2013*
 - *Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Act (No.1) 2012-2013*
 - The following 2013-2014 Acts will be repealed:
 - *Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2013-2014*
 - *Appropriation Act (No. 2) 2013-2014*
 - *Appropriation Act (No. 3) 2013-2014*
 - *Appropriation Act (No. 4) 2013-2014*
 - *Appropriation Act (No. 5) 2013-2014*
 - *Appropriation Act (No. 6) 2013-2014*
 - *Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Act (No. 1) 2013-2014*
 - *Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Act (No. 2) 2013-2014*
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4. Regulatory changes contained in the Omnibus Repeal Day (Spring 2015) Bill

Health	Repeal of Section 3GC of the <i>Health Insurance Act 1973</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On 4 September 2015 the Government agreed to repeal Section 3GC of the <i>Health Insurance Act 1973</i>, to abolish the Medical Training Review Panel (MTRP), and transfer its functions to the National Medical Training Advisory Network (NMTAN).• The NMTAN was transferred to the Department of Health in August 2014. The NMTAN advises on medical workforce planning, and produces medical training plans to inform government, employers and educators about medical training in Australia. The NMTAN also produces the annual report on medical education and training, including undergraduate, postgraduate and vocational training projections.• There is no regulatory saving or burden associated with this proposal.
Health	Repeal of Section 19AD of the <i>Health Insurance Act 1973</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Department of Health is repealing Section 19AD of the <i>Health Insurance Act 1973</i> to remove the requirement for a five-yearly review of the operation of the Medicare provider number legislation – Sections 19AA, 3GA and 3GC of the Act.• Removing the requirement to participate in reviews of the Medicare Provider Number legislation will save a small number of rural health workforce agencies time and administration costs to undertake a review process, which does not provide any new information or result in operational improvements to the legislation. The three previous reviews conducted under Section 19AD have not identified anomalies or unintended consequences relating to the introduction of the Medicare provider number legislation and have indicated a general satisfaction by stakeholders with the operation and intent of the legislation.• The Department of Health estimated an annual saving of \$3,000 in compliance costs.
Health	<i>Aged Care Act 1997</i> amendments relating to removal of adviser and administrator panels
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the Spring 2015 Repeal Day, the requirement to use administrator/adviser panels to assist approved aged care providers under sanction (an estimated 15-20 a year), will be abolished.• These panels provide a list of consultants approved by the Department of Social Services, to assist sanctioned providers to return to, and maintain compliance with their responsibilities under the <i>Aged Care Act 1997</i>.• Legislating the requirement to use consultants from departmentally approved administrator/adviser panels limits flexibility and competition and does not take into account the fact that, in most cases, approved aged care providers have the knowledge and expertise to determine which consultants would be suitable to meet their obligations. Under this change, approved providers will not be required to have their selected consultant approved by the Department via an administrator/adviser panel, reducing time and administration costs. Approved providers would be required to have the consultant appointed and on site within a specified timeframe, to mitigate risks to care recipients.• The Department of Health estimates this will lead to annual savings of \$5 million in compliance costs.

4. Regulatory changes contained in the Omnibus Repeal Day (Spring 2015) Bill

Health	Improving Approved Provider (aged care) obligations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, further measures will be made to simplify administration of residential aged care. • This measure repeals provisions in the <i>Aged Care Act 1997</i> that requires approved providers to notify the Department of Health of any changes in key personnel in their employment within 28 days of the change occurring. The Department receives in the order of 10,000 notifications from aged care providers each year. The <i>Aged Care Act 1997</i> will maintain the requirement that approved providers notify the Department of any change of circumstances that materially affects the provider's suitability to provide care. The measure will reduce compliance costs for businesses and community organisations who are approved aged care providers. • The Department of Health has estimated that this will lead to an annual saving of \$1.2 million in compliance costs. 	
Industry, Innovation & Science	Repeal the redundant <i>Patents Amendment (Patent Cooperation Treaty) Act 1979</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, the <i>Patents Amendment (Patent Cooperation Treaty) Act 1979</i> will be repealed. • Most of the provisions in this Act amended the now-repealed <i>Patents Act 1952</i> to account for Australia's accession to the Patent Cooperation Treaty. The amending Act was spent once it amended the principal Act, and as a result, these provisions are now redundant. 	
Immigration & Border Protection	Repeal the redundant <i>Customs (Tariff Concessions Validations) Act 1999</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of 2015 Spring Repeal Day, the redundant <i>Customs (Tariff Concession System Validations) Act 1999</i> will be repealed. • This Act validated decisions made in relation to Tariff Concession Orders that relied on faulty delegations. This Act has no operation in relation to decisions made after June 1999 and has no impact on business or individuals. The Act is redundant and can be repealed. 	
Infrastructure & Regional Development	Amending Acts to allow repeal of Schedule 1 to the ACT Self Government (Consequential Provisions) Regulations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, Schedule 1 of the ACT Self Government (Consequential Provisions) Regulations will be repealed. • The provisions currently in Schedule 1 of the Regulations will be incorporated into the principal Acts and there will be no change to the effect of these Acts. • This measure will reduce the range of legislative instruments that need to be consulted to understand the applicability of Commonwealth legislation in the ACT. It will also reduce the likelihood of misunderstandings about such applicability and will mean that business, individuals and community organisations spend less time trawling through regulations. 	

4. Regulatory changes contained in the Omnibus Repeal Day (Spring 2015) Bill

Prime Minister & Cabinet	<p>Repealing the <i>Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation Act 1991</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, the <i>Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation Act 1991</i> (CAR Act) will be repealed as the legislation is spent and redundant.• The CAR Act was introduced as a result of cross-party support for the establishment of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation ('the Council'). Each of the provisions set out within the CAR Act are specific to either the establishment, processes or requirements relating to the operation of the Council. The functions and powers of the Council were limited to activities related to reconciliation such as consulting, undertaking certain initiatives, promoting and fostering discussion, providing advice, reports and develop strategic plans to promote the process of reconciliation.• The Council was established in 1991 and produced its final report in 2000. Section 32 provided that the CAR Act ceased from 1 January 2001 and it therefore has been inoperative since that date. There are no ongoing arrangements, appointments or other measures that have been entered into or commenced under the CAR Act since 2001.
Prime Minister & Cabinet	<p>Amend the <i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Amendment Act 2005</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, amendments will be made to item 200 of Schedule 1 of Part 3 of the <i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Amendment Act 2005</i>.• Previously, an organisation that acquired an interest in land with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) assistance could not dispose of that interest without the consent of the appropriate authority (the Government, Indigenous Business Australia, or the Indigenous Land Corporation, depending on the nature of the interest). The amendments will enable the appropriate consenting authority to waive the exercise of its statutory consent power by providing written notice to the organisation concerned that consent is no longer required (e.g., in circumstances where an organisation has repaid any grants of money from ATSIC).
Prime Minister & Cabinet	<p>Amending the <i>Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, Section 114 of the <i>Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995</i> (CPFCG Act) will be repealed.• Section 114 of the CPFCG Act provides for an independent review of the operation of the 'prohibited material'. In particular, Part 10 makes it an offence to possess or control prohibited material in a prohibited material area, or to supply (or prepare, transport, guard, conceal or possess with intention to supply) prohibited material in, or to, a prohibited area.• The independent review under Part 10 has now been completed, and a final report was tabled in both Houses of the Parliament of Australia on 16 September 2015. Section 114 is redundant and its repeal will remove unnecessary legislation from the Commonwealth statute book.

4. Regulatory changes contained in the Omnibus Repeal Day (Spring 2015) Bill

Prime Minister & Cabinet	Amending the <i>Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory Act 2012</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, the <i>Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory Act 2012</i> will be amended to remove unnecessary or ineffective provisions.• The Northern Territory Minister and the Northern Territory Licensing Commission are responsible for monitoring and regulating the activities of licensed premises in the Northern Territory under Northern Territory laws. Division 5 of Part 2 will be repealed removing ineffective provisions relating to assessments of licensed premises.• Further, repealing Division 8 of Part 2 will remove unnecessary duplication of Government and NT alcohol laws.
Social Services	Disclosing personal information
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, provisions will be made to remove unnecessary requirements governing disclosure of protected information when used appropriately for research.• Section 202(2)(e) of the <i>Social Security Administration Act 1999</i> permits the release of protected information for limited research, statistical analysis and policy development purposes. However, the Act does not allow for the on-provision of this information to third parties for the same purpose, unless permission is sought on a case-by-case basis. The proposed amendment would enable a person to disclose protected information that has been disclosed to them by the Secretary, for the purpose of research, statistical analysis or policy development, bypassing the need for the person to go through a public interest certificate process or seek a further decision from the Secretary under Subsection 202(2C).• The Department of Social Services has estimated that this will result in an annual saving of \$5,000 in compliance costs.
Social Services	Removing spent family assistance and social security payments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, redundant provisions relating to various 'spent social security payments' will be repealed from the <i>A New Tax System (Family Assistance) Act 1999</i> and the <i>Social Security Act 1991</i>.• Payments include: various one-off payments to older Australians and carers; economic security strategy payments; the training and learning bonus and the farmers hardship bonus; the back to school bonus; the single income family bonus; mature age allowances; the special needs age pension and special needs wife pension; the Northern Territory Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) and Employment projects transition payment; and the clean energy advance. These payments were designed and introduced as temporary measures, or have since been superseded by other payments.

4. Regulatory changes contained in the Omnibus Repeal Day (Spring 2015) Bill

Treasury	Repealing the <i>Papua and New Guinea Loan (International Bank) Act 1970</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, the <i>Papua and New Guinea Loan (International Bank) Act 1970</i> will be repealed.• The Act related to a Government guarantee on a loan made to Papua New Guinea by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) in 1973. The IBRD has confirmed that the loan has been repaid in full and hence, the Act can be repealed.
Treasury	Repealing the <i>Statistical Bureau (Tasmania) Act 1924</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, the <i>Statistical Bureau (Tasmania) Act 1924</i> will be repealed.• The Act approved an agreement made between the Commonwealth and Tasmania to facilitate the integration of the statistical office of Tasmania into the Commonwealth, and for the Commonwealth to compile and issue statistics specifically for Tasmania.• The Act is now redundant due to the completion of the integration of statistical functions and the statistical services compiled by the Commonwealth being obsolete.
Treasury	Repealing <i>Statistics (Arrangements with States) Act 1956</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, the <i>Statistics (Arrangements with States) Act 1956</i> will be repealed.• The Act enabled the States' statistics to be compiled and issued by the Commonwealth, the transfer of staff between the States and the Commonwealth and the appointment of staff to hold a specified office in both the Public Service of the Commonwealth and the Public Service of the relevant State.• The Act is now redundant due to the duplication of the enabling provision in current legislation and because the arrangements entered into are considered redundant.
Treasury	Repealing the <i>Termination Payment Tax Imposition Act 1997</i> and the <i>Termination Payments Tax (Assessment and Collection) Act 1997</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, the <i>Termination Payments Tax Imposition Act 1997</i> and the <i>Termination Payments Tax (Assessment and Collection) Act 1997</i> will be repealed.• The termination payments tax was introduced in 1997 and formed part of a package of legislation designed to provide a framework for the introduction of a superannuation contributions surcharge for high income earners. As it has been almost ten years since the last termination payment subject to the tax was made and relevant assessments have been issued and the general amendment period has expired for almost all taxpayers, the termination payments tax Acts have become inoperative and are therefore being repealed.

4. Regulatory changes contained in the Omnibus Repeal Day (Spring 2015) Bill

Treasury	Amending the <i>Insurance Act 1973</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, the standing appropriation in Section 92Q(5) of the <i>Insurance Act 1973</i> will be repealed.• Section 92Q(5) provides that the Consolidated Revenue Fund is to be appropriated for payment of interest to Lloyd's. This standing appropriation is no longer necessary as a result of a Financial Management and Accountability Determination which, in conjunction with the provisions of the <i>Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997</i>, provides the requisite appropriation authority to pay interest to Lloyd's.
Veterans' Affairs	Repeal redundant provisions of the <i>Veterans' Entitlement Act 1986</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, redundant elements of the <i>Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986</i> (the Act) will be repealed.• The redundant elements include Part VIID (2006 One-off payment to older Australians); Part VIIE (2007 One-off payment to older Australians); Part VIIF (2008 One-off payment to older Australians); Part VIIG (Economic Security Payment); and Part VIHH (Education Tax Refund Payment). These measures were inserted into the Act to make one-off payments to a limited class of eligible persons between 2006 and 2008. The provisions are redundant and can be safely repealed.
Veterans' Affairs	Repeal redundant clean energy advances
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the 2015 Spring Repeal Day, spent provisions in the <i>Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986</i> and the <i>Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004</i> relating to the payment of the Clean Energy Advance for the period 2012 to 2013 will be repealed.• As the allowances have all been paid, these measures are spent and can be removed. Removal of these provisions will simplify administration.

5. Summary of key regulatory changes that increase regulatory costs

Immigration & Border Protection	Implementing the recommendations of the 2014 OMARA review
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On 8 May 2015 the Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection announced that the Government has agreed to implement the majority of recommendations of the 2014 Independent Review of the Office of the Migration Agents Registration Authority (OMARA) report. Implementation will commence in late 2015.• The implementation of the review's findings will ensure that registered migration agents continue to have the necessary skills by strengthening requirements for entry into the profession, improving arrangements around professional development, and reviewing the Code of Conduct. These changes recognise that migration agents are providing important and complex advice to their clients and will improve outcomes for consumers of migration services, who are often amongst the most vulnerable in the community. This measure will also remove the requirement for lawyers to register with the OMARA, in recognition that they are already subject to one of the strictest regulatory regimes of any profession through State or Territory legal authorities.• The Office of Best Practice Regulation has agreed that this will lead to an annual increase of \$2.9 million in compliance costs.	
Infrastructure & Regional Development	Harmonising Government programmes and services for Norfolk Island residents
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In March 2015 the Australian Government, as part of its election commitment, announced the extension of the Australian health, welfare, taxation and immigration and border protection regimes to include Norfolk Island.• These changes will harmonise the delivery of other Government programmes and services where appropriate for Norfolk Island residents. The measure amends the <i>Norfolk Island Act 1979</i>, effectively ending self-government on Norfolk Island.• The Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development is working with government agencies on the implementation of the reforms after which the impact of the new regulatory environment will be assessed.	

5. Summary of key regulatory changes that increase regulatory costs

Treasury	Combating multinational tax avoidance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On 16 September 2015 the Treasurer introduced the Tax Laws Amendment (Combating Multinational Tax Avoidance) Bill 2015. The Bill is currently before the Senate.• The Bill will implement a new multinational anti-avoidance law, stronger penalties for larger companies that engage in tax avoidance and profit shifting, and country-by-country reporting to give tax authorities greater visibility of multinationals' tax structures. These three measures will apply to over 1,000 large multinationals operating in Australia with annual global revenue of \$1 billion or more.• The Treasury has estimated that this will lead to an annual increase of \$23.3 million in compliance costs.
Treasury	Improving the taxation of employee share schemes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On 25 March 2015 the Minister for Small Business introduced the Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (Employee Share Schemes) Bill 2015. The Bill received Royal Assent on 30 June 2015.• Changes introduced in 2009 meant that the discount component of shares or options was taxed when the employee received those shares or options, creating valuation difficulties and causing employees to be taxed on options before they were able to realise a financial benefit.• Under the Government's changes, employees will generally be able to defer tax until they exercise those options; the maximum time for tax deferral will increase from seven years to 15 years; and the maximum individual ownership limit will double from five per cent to ten per cent. Under a new additional concession, employees of eligible start-ups can receive options or shares at a small discount, without being subject to up-front taxation if they hold the shares or options for at least three years. The increased attractiveness of the new arrangements will result in a larger number of individuals and entities engaging with the new regulations.• The OBPR has agreed that this will lead to an annual increase of \$1.3 million in compliance costs.
Treasury	Reducing the small business company tax rate
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On 28 May 2015 the Small Business Minister introduced the Tax Laws Amendment (Small Business No.1) Bill 2015. The Bill received Royal Assent on 22 June 2015.• This measure reduces the corporate tax rate from 30 per cent to 28.5 per cent for small businesses with annual turnover under \$2 million. Providing incorporated small businesses with a reduced rate of company tax will enable them to retain more earnings and improve their cash flow—a critical issue for small businesses' survival and success. It is estimated that up to 780,000 small business companies could benefit from this measure. The changes will have a one-off transitional cost of \$30 million and an ongoing compliance cost of \$0.2 million.• The OBPR has agreed that this will lead to an annual increase of \$3.2 million in compliance costs.

5. Summary of key regulatory changes that increase regulatory costs

Treasury	Reforming governance of registrable superannuation entities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On 16 September 2015 the Treasurer introduced the Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Trustee Governance Bill) 2015. The Bill is currently before the Senate.• The Bill will require trustees of registrable superannuation entities to restructure their boards. Boards will now be required to have a minimum of one-third independent directors and an independent chair. This movement towards greater independence is consistent with the conclusions of the Financial System Inquiry and the Cooper Review into superannuation. The main costs of the measure relate to remuneration, search and engagement costs and ancillary legal costs (such as changes to constitutions and trust deeds).• The OBPR has agreed that this will lead to an annual increase of \$13.2 million in compliance costs.
Treasury	Introducing a tax discount for unincorporated small businesses
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On 24 June 2015 the Minister for Small Business introduced the Tax Laws Amendment (Small Business Measure No.3) Bill 2015. The Bill received Royal Assent on 26 August 2015.• This five per cent tax discount, capped at \$1,000, will apply to owners of unincorporated businesses with an annual turnover of less than \$2 million, from 1 July 2015. This measure broadly mirrors the 1.5 percentage point company tax cut for small business. Transitional compliance costs are likely to be incurred by small business and individuals from trusts and partnerships, due to the increased learning and record-keeping requirements that this tax cut, applied through a progressive personal income tax system, will require.• The OBPR has agreed that this will lead to an annual increase of \$15.6 million in compliance costs.