

Chair: Mr Angus Taylor MP

Streamlining social security arrangements with Austria

Social security provisions between Australia and Austria will be examined at the <u>Joint Standing</u> Committee on Treaties first public hearing for the year.

The Committee will investigate the <u>Agreement between Australia and the Republic of Austria on Social Security</u>, which aims to stream line social security coverage for people migrating between the two countries. The agreement ensures that the responsibility for providing benefits is shared and that people moving between Australia and Austria to live or work, will find it easier to claim benefits including the aged pension and superannuation.

Committee Chair, Angus Taylor MP, says that Australia currently has 30 of these agreements in place, reflecting the increasing mobility of today's world and the growing numbers of people living and working across national boundaries.

"Australia has had three previous agreements with Austria covering these arrangements. This new agreement will cover the same benefits for people in Australia and Austria but will update the provisions to make them consistent with changes in legislation in both countries, making them more accessible," he said.

Public Hearing: Monday 1 February, Committee Room 2R1, Parliament House, Canberra

11.15am Agreement between Australia and the Republic of Austria on Social

Security

12.00pm Close

The hearings will be broadcast through: www.aph.gov.au/live

Copies of the treaties and submissions received can be found at: http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary Business/Committees/Joint/Treaties

Alternatively, interested parties may email jsct@aph.gov.au or phone (02) 6277 4002.

MEDIA CONTACTS

Media contact: Mr Angus Taylor MP (02) 4822 2277
Background: Committee Secretariat (02) 6277 4002

Telephone: 02 6277 4002
Facsimile: 02 6277 2219
E-mail: jsct@aph.gov.au
Website: www.aph.gov.au/jsct

PARLIAMENT HOUSE CANBERRA ACT 2600