



Australian Government

Department of Defence

**Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
Inquiry into the
Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (Omnibus) Bill 2017
(provisions)**

**Department of Defence
Written Submission**

April 2017

1. On 30 March 2017, the Senate referred the provisions of the Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (Omnibus) Bill 2017 (the Bill) to the Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 13 June 2017. This document is the Department of Defence's written submission for the inquiry.
2. Defence supports any initiative that improves the care and support provided to current or former members of the Australian Defence Force who have been adversely impacted by their service, particularly where the initiative reduces the complexity involved in accessing that care and support, and in the administration of relevant veterans' legislation.
3. The amendments in the Bill are minor but necessary to veterans' legislation to clarify, improve or streamline the operation of the law, and do not adversely impact veterans access to benefits and entitlements under relevant legislation.
4. The proposed amendments contained in the Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (Omnibus) Bill 2017 are supported by Defence.