



REVIEW OF THE TAX LAWS AMENDMENT (2012 MEASURES NO. 4) BILL 2012

ROUNDTABLE PUBLIC HEARING IN CANBERRA

Thursday, 26 July 2012

The House Economics Committee will hold a roundtable public hearing on the Tax Laws Amendment (2012 Measures No. 4) Bill 2012 on Thursday, 26 July 2012 in Canberra. The Bill is available from the committee’s website.

The inquiry will focus on the proposed changes to the ‘living-away-from-home’ allowance (LAFHA).

The policy intent of LAFHA is to compensate an employee for the additional expenses they incur as a result of having to work away from their primary place of residence in Australia. Schedule 1 amends the tax treatment of LAFHA from being dealt with under fringe benefit arrangements to including it as assessable income.

The change brings LAFHA in line with other similar allowances, such as motor vehicle allowances. The concessional treatment of the allowance will be more tightly targeted by requiring employees to maintain a residence in Australia and placing a 12 month limit on the concession.

Additional annual revenue is expected to be \$1.9 billion over the next four years.

The hearing will be conducted in a roundtable format with representatives from government and industry appearing at the same time. The committee will be seeking to determine the adequacy of the Bill, with an aim to ensure it meets its policy objectives and where possible identify any unintended consequences.

**Roundtable Public Hearing Program
Thursday, 26 Thursday 2012
Committee Room 2R1
Parliament House, Canberra**

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| 9.15 am | The Department of the Treasury | The Tax Institute |
| | The Group of Eight | Ashurst Australia |
| | The University of Sydney | Australian Manufacturing Workers Union |
| | Australian Industry Group | Ernst Young |
| | PricewaterhouseCoopers | The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia |
| | Australian Taxation Office | Australian Contractors Association |
| 12.15 pm | Adjournment | |

For media comment: Please contact the Committee Chair Julie Owens MP:

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