#### **TASMANIA**

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#### ASBESTOS-RELATED DISEASES (OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE) COMPENSATION (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 2011

#### **CONTENTS**

#### PART 1 – PRELIMINARY

- 1. Short title
- 2. Commencement

#### PART 2 – AMBULANCE SERVICE ACT 1982 AMENDED

- 3. Principal Act
- 4. Section 36 amended (Fees for ambulance services)

#### PART 3 – APPEAL COSTS FUND ACT 1968 AMENDED

- 5. Principal Act
- 6. Section 5B inserted
  - 5B. Annual statement by Registrar of Asbestos Compensation Tribunal

#### PART 4 – CIVIL LIABILITY ACT 2002 AMENDED

- 7. Principal Act
- 8. Section 3B amended (Civil liability excluded from Act)
- 9. Section 43A amended (Application of Part 9A)
- 10. Section 45 amended (Meaning of "volunteer")

#### PART 5 – CIVIL PROCESS ACT 1985 AMENDED

11. Principal Act

[Bill 39]-XI

12. Section 4 amended (Prevalence of this Act)

#### PART 6 – DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS ACT 1973 AMENDED

- 13. Principal Act
- 14. Section 6 amended (Remuneration of Director)

#### PART 7 – EVIDENCE (AUDIO AND AUDIO VISUAL LINKS) REGULATIONS 2008 AMENDED

- 15. Principal Regulations
- 16. Regulation 4 amended (Certain tribunals prescribed as Tasmanian courts)

#### PART 8 – FIRE SERVICE ACT 1979 AMENDED

- 17. Principal Act
- 18. Section 40 amended (Assistance in relation to civil emergencies)
- 19. Section 41 amended (Services outside fire-fighting)
- 20. Section 130A amended (Provisions relating to employment)

#### PART 9 – HEALTH (FEES) REGULATIONS 2007 AMENDED

- 21. Principal Regulations
- 22. Regulation 3 amended (Interpretation)

#### PART 10 – HEALTH ACT 1997 AMENDED

- 23. Principal Act
- 24. Section 7 amended (Fees)

#### PART 11 - HEALTH COMPLAINTS ACT 1995 AMENDED

- 25. Principal Act
- 26. Section 30 amended (Withdrawal of complaint)
- 27. Section 36 amended (Commissioner may end conciliation)
- 28. Section 43 amended (Conduct of investigation)
- 29. Schedule 1 amended (Health Services)

#### PART 12 – INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS ACT 1984 AMENDED

30. Principal Act

31. Section 6 amended (Provisions relating to appointment of Commissioners)

#### PART 13 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993 AMENDED

- 32. Principal Act
- 33. Section 265 amended (Electoral officers)

### PART 14 – LONG SERVICE LEAVE (CASUAL WHARF EMPLOYEES) ACT 1982 AMENDED

- 34. Principal Act
- 35. Section 3 amended (Interpretation)

#### PART 15 – LONG SERVICE LEAVE ACT 1976 AMENDED

- 36. Principal Act
- 37. Section 2 amended (Interpretation)

#### PART 16 – MAGISTRATES COURT ACT 1987 AMENDED

- 38. Principal Act
- 39. Section 10 amended (Terms and conditions of service of magistrates)

### PART 17 – MOTOR ACCIDENTS (LIABILITIES AND COMPENSATION) ACT 1973 AMENDED

- 40. Principal Act
- 41. Section 14 amended (General liability of Board in respect of motor accidents)
- 42. Section 24 amended (Exclusions from scheduled benefits)

#### PART 18 – RETIREMENT BENEFITS REGULATIONS 2005 AMENDED

- 43. Principal Regulations
- 44. Regulation 85 amended (Reduction or suspension of invalidity pensions in certain cases)

#### PART 19 - SENTENCING ACT 1997 AMENDED

- 45. Principal Act
- 46. Section 36A amended (Offender discharging order is taken to be Crown employee for certain purposes)

#### PART 20 - SOLICITOR-GENERAL ACT 1983 AMENDED

- 47. Principal Act
- 48. Section 5 amended (Terms and conditions of service of Solicitor-General)

### PART 21 – WORKERS REHABILITATION AND COMPENSATION ACT 1988 AMENDED

- 49. Principal Act
- 50. Section 3 amended (Interpretation)
- 51. Section 77F amended (Revocation or suspension of accreditations)
- 52. Section 164BA inserted
  164BA. Application of Asbestos-Related Diseases
  (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011
- 53. Schedule 4 amended (Diseases in Respect of Which There is Presumption of Cause)

#### **PART 22 – CONCLUDING PROVISIONS**

54. Repeal of Act

#### ASBESTOS-RELATED DISEASES (OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE) COMPENSATION (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 2011

This Public Bill originated in the House of Assembly, and, having this day passed, is now ready for presentation to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

P. R. ALCOCK, *Clerk of the House* 7 July 2011

(Brought in by the Minister for Workplace Relations, the Honourable David James O'Byrne)

#### A BILL FOR

An Act to amend certain legislation consequent on the enactment of the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011 and to make certain other minor amendments to legislation so amended

Be it enacted by His Excellency the Governor of Tasmania, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly, in Parliament assembled, as follows:

#### PART 1 – PRELIMINARY

#### 1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation (Consequential Amendments) Act 2011.

[Bill 39]

Part 1 – Preliminary

#### 2. Commencement

This Act commences on the day on which section 29 of the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011 commences.

6

s. 2

Part 2 – Ambulance Service Act 1982 Amended

s. 3

#### PART 2 – AMBULANCE SERVICE ACT 1982 AMENDED

#### 3. Principal Act

In this Part, the *Ambulance Service Act 1982\** is referred to as the Principal Act.

#### 4. Section 36 amended (Fees for ambulance services)

Section 36(1) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting "the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011," after "Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988,".

\*No. 105 of 1982

#### PART 3 – APPEAL COSTS FUND ACT 1968 AMENDED

#### 5. Principal Act

In this Part, the *Appeal Costs Fund Act 1968\** is referred to as the Principal Act.

#### 6. Section 5B inserted

After section 5A of the Principal Act, the following section is inserted:

### **5B.** Annual statement by Registrar of Asbestos Compensation Tribunal

- Registrar (1) The of the Asbestos Compensation Tribunal established under Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011 must, not later than 31 July in give the Asbestos each year, to Compensation Commissioner appointed under that Act a statement specifying the number of applications for referral made under that Act to the Tribunal during the previous financial year.
- (2) The Asbestos Compensation Commissioner must, not later than 31 August in each year –

- (a) give to the Registrar a copy of the statement received by the Commissioner under subsection (1); and
- (b) pay to the Registrar the prescribed amount.
- (3) For the purposes of subsection (2), the prescribed amount is an amount calculated by multiplying the number of applications for referral made under that Act to the Tribunal by the fee prescribed in regulations made under this Act on the filing of a plaint in a court of requests.

#### PART 4 – CIVIL LIABILITY ACT 2002 AMENDED

#### 7. Principal Act

In this Part, the *Civil Liability Act* 2002\* is referred to as the Principal Act.

### 8. Section 3B amended (Civil liability excluded from Act)

Section 3B(4) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting "the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011," after "Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988,".

#### 9. Section 43A amended (Application of Part 9A)

Section 43A(1)(b) of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Australian Consumer Law (Tasmania) Act 2010" and substituting "Australian Consumer Law (Tasmania)".

#### 10. Section 45 amended (Meaning of "volunteer")

Section 45(1) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting "or the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act

Part 4 – Civil Liability Act 2002 Amended

s. 10

2011" after "Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988" in paragraph (a) of the definition of "volunteer".

#### PART 5 – CIVIL PROCESS ACT 1985 AMENDED

#### 11. Principal Act

In this Part, the *Civil Process Act 1985\** is referred to as the Principal Act.

#### 12. Section 4 amended (Prevalence of this Act)

Section 4(2) of the Principal Act is amended by omitting paragraph (g) and substituting the following paragraph:

- (g) proceedings under
  - (i) the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988; or
  - (ii) the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011; or

Part 6 – Director of Public Prosecutions Act 1973 Amended

s. 13

#### PART 6 – DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS ACT 1973 AMENDED

#### 13. Principal Act

In this Part, the *Director of Public Prosecutions Act 1973\** is referred to as the Principal Act.

#### **14.** Section 6 amended (Remuneration of Director)

Section 6(3) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting "and the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011" after "Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988".

Part 7 – Evidence (Audio and Audio Visual Links) Regulations 2008 Amended

### PART 7 – EVIDENCE (AUDIO AND AUDIO VISUAL LINKS) REGULATIONS 2008 AMENDED

#### 15. Principal Regulations

In this Part, the *Evidence* (Audio and Audio Visual Links) Regulations 2008\* are referred to as the Principal Regulations.

## 16. Regulation 4 amended (Certain tribunals prescribed as Tasmanian courts)

Regulation 4 of the Principal Regulations is amended by inserting after paragraph (h) the following paragraph:

(ha) Asbestos Compensation Tribunal;

s. 15

Part 8 – Fire Service Act 1979 Amended

s. 17

#### PART 8 – FIRE SERVICE ACT 1979 AMENDED

#### 17. Principal Act

In this Part, the *Fire Service Act 1979\** is referred to as the Principal Act.

### 18. Section 40 amended (Assistance in relation to civil emergencies)

Section 40(3) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting "and section 19 of the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011" after "section 5 of the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988".

#### 19. Section 41 amended (Services outside fire-fighting)

Section 41(5) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting "and section 19 of the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011" after "section 5 of the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988".

Part 8 – Fire Service Act 1979 Amended

## 20. Section 130A amended (Provisions relating to employment)

Section 130A(2) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting "and the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011" after "Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988".

16

s. 20

Part 9 – Health (Fees) Regulations 2007 Amended

s. 21

#### PART 9 – HEALTH (FEES) REGULATIONS 2007 AMENDED

#### 21. Principal Regulations

In this Part, the *Health (Fees) Regulations 2007\** are referred to as the Principal Regulations.

#### 22. Regulation 3 amended (Interpretation)

Regulation 3 of the Principal Regulations is amended by inserting after subparagraph (ii) in paragraph (a) of the definition of "compensable patient" the following subparagraph:

(iia) the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011; or

#### PART 10 – HEALTH ACT 1997 AMENDED

#### 23. Principal Act

In this Part, the *Health Act 1997\** is referred to as the Principal Act.

#### 24. Section 7 amended (Fees)

Section 7 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after subsection (3) the following subsection:

(3A) The fee payable for hospital services provided to a person whose fees and charges are being funded by the Asbestos Compensation Commissioner appointed under the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011 is the amount agreed from time to time by the Minister and the Asbestos Compensation Commissioner for the provision of those services.

#### PART 11 – HEALTH COMPLAINTS ACT 1995 AMENDED

#### 25. Principal Act

In this Part, the *Health Complaints Act 1995\** is referred to as the Principal Act.

#### **26.** Section 30 amended (Withdrawal of complaint)

Section 30(3) of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "section 25(1)(a)" and substituting "section 25(1A)(a)".

## 27. Section 36 amended (Commissioner may end conciliation)

Section 36(2)(b) of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "section 25(1)(a)" and substituting "section 25(1A)(a)".

#### 28. Section 43 amended (Conduct of investigation)

Section 43(2) of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "section 25(1)(b)(i)" and substituting "section 25(1A)(b)(i)".

#### 29. Schedule 1 amended (Health Services)

Schedule 1 to the Principal Act is amended by omitting Part 2 and substituting:

#### PART 2 – SERVICES THAT ARE NOT HEALTH SERVICES

- **1.** The provision of an opinion or the making of a decision for the purposes of a claim under the *Workers Rehabilitation* and Compensation Act 1988.
- The provision of an opinion or the 2. making of a decision for the purposes of, or in relation to, an application made to the Asbestos Compensation Commissioner, or the Asbestos Compensation Tribunal, under the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011.

Part 12 – Industrial Relations Act 1984 Amended

s. 30

#### PART 12 – INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS ACT 1984 AMENDED

#### 30. Principal Act

In this Part, the *Industrial Relations Act 1984\** is referred to as the Principal Act.

## 31. Section 6 amended (Provisions relating to appointment of Commissioners)

Section 6(5) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after paragraph (b) the following paragraph:

(ba) the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011; and

#### PART 13 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993 AMENDED

#### 32. Principal Act

In this Part, the *Local Government Act 1993\** is referred to as the Principal Act.

#### 33. Section 265 amended (Electoral officers)

Section 265(4) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting "and the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011" after "Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988".

Part 14 – Long Service Leave (Casual Wharf Employees) Act 1982 Amended

s. 34

### PART 14 – LONG SERVICE LEAVE (CASUAL WHARF EMPLOYEES) ACT 1982 AMENDED

#### 34. Principal Act

In this Part, the *Long Service Leave (Casual Wharf Employees) Act 1982\** is referred to as the Principal Act.

#### **35.** Section 3 amended (Interpretation)

Section 3 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting "or the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011" after "Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988" in the definition of "workers' compensation".

#### PART 15 – LONG SERVICE LEAVE ACT 1976 AMENDED

#### 36. Principal Act

In this Part, the *Long Service Leave Act 1976\** is referred to as the Principal Act.

#### 37. Section 2 amended (Interpretation)

Section 2(1) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after paragraph (a) in the definition of "workers' compensation" the following paragraph:

(ab) the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011; or

Part 16 – Magistrates Court Act 1987 Amended

s. 38

#### PART 16 – MAGISTRATES COURT ACT 1987 AMENDED

#### 38. Principal Act

In this Part, the *Magistrates Court Act 1987\** is referred to as the Principal Act.

## 39. Section 10 amended (Terms and conditions of service of magistrates)

Section 10(4) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting "and the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011" after "Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988".

### PART 17 – MOTOR ACCIDENTS (LIABILITIES AND COMPENSATION) ACT 1973 AMENDED

#### 40. Principal Act

In this Part, the *Motor Accidents (Liabilities and Compensation) Act 1973\** is referred to as the Principal Act.

## 41. Section 14 amended (General liability of Board in respect of motor accidents)

Section 14 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after subsection (3) the following subsection:

(3A) Subsection (1) does not apply to any liability in relation to the contraction by a person of an asbestos-related disease, within the meaning of the *Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011*, if the person is entitled to compensation under that Act in relation to the contraction by the person of that disease.

Part 17 – Motor Accidents (Liabilities and Compensation) Act 1973 Amended s. 42

### 42. Section 24 amended (Exclusions from scheduled benefits)

Section 24(1) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after paragraph (ba) the following paragraph:

(bb) where the personal injury consists of the contraction by the person of an asbestos-related disease, within the meaning of the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011 and the person is entitled to compensation under that Act in relation to the contraction by the person of that disease;

### PART 18 – RETIREMENT BENEFITS REGULATIONS 2005 AMENDED

#### 43. Principal Regulations

In this Part, the *Retirement Benefits Regulations* 2005\* are referred to as the Principal Regulations.

## 44. Regulation 85 amended (Reduction or suspension of invalidity pensions in certain cases)

Regulation 85(1) of the Principal Regulations is amended by omitting paragraph (d) and substituting the following paragraph:

- (d) is in receipt of
  - (i) regular workers compensation payments under the *Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988*; or
  - (ii) regular weekly payments under Part 7 of the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011 –

and the combined payments of the invalidity pension and those workers

Part 18 – Retirement Benefits Regulations 2005 Amended

s. 44

compensation payments or regular weekly payments exceed the salary received, or taken by the Board to have been received, in the previous 12 months –

#### PART 19 – SENTENCING ACT 1997 AMENDED

#### 45. Principal Act

In this Part, the *Sentencing Act 1997\** is referred to as the Principal Act.

### 46. Section 36A amended (Offender discharging order is taken to be Crown employee for certain purposes)

Section 36A of the Principal Act is amended as follows:

- (a) by inserting in subsection (1) "and the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011" after "Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988";
- (b) by inserting the following subsection after subsection (1):
  - (1A) Despite subsection (1), an offender discharging a community service order is not to be taken to be a worker for the purposes of section 84(3) of the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011 if he or she is a worker for the purposes

Part 19 – Sentencing Act 1997 Amended

s. 46

of section 84(3) of that Act by reason only of the application of subsection (1) of this Act.

#### PART 20 – SOLICITOR-GENERAL ACT 1983 AMENDED

#### 47. Principal Act

In this Part, the *Solicitor-General Act 1983\** is referred to as the Principal Act.

## **48.** Section 5 amended (Terms and conditions of service of Solicitor-General)

Section 5(4) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting "and the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011" after "Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988".

Part 21 – Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988 Amended

s. 49

### PART 21 – WORKERS REHABILITATION AND COMPENSATION ACT 1988 AMENDED

#### 49. Principal Act

In this Part, the *Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988\** is referred to as the Principal Act.

#### **50.** Section 3 amended (Interpretation)

Section 3(1) of the Principal Act is amended by omitting the definition of "injury" and substituting the following definition:

#### "injury" includes –

- (a) a disease; and
- (b) the recurrence, aggravation, acceleration, exacerbation deterioration of any pre-existing injury or disease where the employment was the major or most significant contributing factor that recurrence, to aggravation, acceleration. exacerbation or deterioration –

but does not, except for the purposes of section 97(1)(b) and (c), include an

s. 51 Part 21 – Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988 Amended

asbestos-related disease within the meaning of the *Asbestos-Related Diseases* (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011;

### 51. Section 77F amended (Revocation or suspension of accreditations)

Section 77F(1) of the Principal Act is amended as follows:

- (a) by inserting in paragraph (a) "or of the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011" after "provision of this Act";
- (b) by inserting in paragraph (a) "or that Act" after "under this Act";
- (c) by inserting in paragraph (a) ", the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011" after "requirements of this Act";
- (d) by inserting in paragraph (b) "or the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011" after "Act".

Part 21 – Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988 Amended

s. 52

#### 52. Section 164BA inserted

After section 164A of the Principal Act, the following section is inserted in Part XIII:

# 164BA. Application of Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011

(1) In this section –

"asbestos-related disease" has the same meaning as it has in the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011.

(2) If a claim for compensation in respect of an injury consisting of an asbestosrelated disease was made by a person of before the commencement the Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation (Consequential Amendments) Act 2011, the amendment effected by that Act to the definition of "injury" in section 3 does not apply in respect of that person in relation to that claim or subsequent claim for compensation made in relation to that injury.

s. 53 Part 21 – Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988 Amended

## 53. Schedule 4 amended (Diseases in Respect of Which There is Presumption of Cause)

Schedule 4 to the Principal Act is amended by omitting

Asbestosis.	Any work involving exposure to inhalation of asbestos fibres.
	Any work involving exposure to inhalation of asbestos fibres.

Part 22 – Concluding Provisions

s. 54

#### **PART 22 – CONCLUDING PROVISIONS**

#### 54. Repeal of Act

This Act is repealed on the ninetieth day from the day on which it commences.