

1999 BILL 207

Third Session, 24th Legislature, 48 Elizabeth II

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

BILL 207

**SENIORS BENEFIT STATUTES
AMENDMENT ACT, 1999**

MRS. MacBETH

First Reading

Second Reading

Committee of the Whole

Third Reading

Royal Assent

Bill 207
Mrs. MacBeth

BILL 207

1999

SENIORS BENEFIT STATUTES AMENDMENT ACT, 1999

(Assented to , 1999)

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the
Legislative Assembly of Alberta, enacts as follows:

Health Insurance Premiums Act

Amends RSA
1980 cH-5

**1(1) The *Health Insurance Premiums Act* is amended by
this section.**

**(2) Section 4 is repealed and the following is
substituted:**

Seniors'
exemption
from payment
of premiums

4(1) In this section,

- (a) "senior" means a person who is 65 years of age or older;
- (b) "senior couple" means a couple where one or both individuals are seniors.

**(2) The following persons are not liable for the payment of
premiums:**

- (a) a senior;
- (b) a senior couple.

Explanatory Notes

Health Insurance Premiums Act

1(1) Amends chapter H-5 of the Revised Statutes of Alberta, 1980.

(2) Section 4 presently reads:

4(1) If a registrant or the registrant's spouse is receiving a benefit under the Seniors Benefit Act, the registrant is not liable for the payment of premiums on behalf of the registrant, the registrant's spouse or the registrant's dependants.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to premiums that have become due or become due during a period of time when the registrant or the registrant's spouse is not receiving a benefit under the Seniors Benefit Act.

Seniors Benefit Act

Amends SA
1994 cS-13.3

2(1) The *Seniors Benefit Act* is amended by this section.

(2) The following is added after section 2:

Quarterly
adjustments

2.1(1) In this section,

- (a) “Consumer Price Index”, with respect to any adjustment quarter, means the average for that adjustment quarter of the Consumer Price Index for Alberta, as published by Statistics Canada under the authority of the *Statistics Act* (Canada), for each month in that adjustment quarter;
- (b) “first adjustment quarter”, in relation to a payment quarter, means
 - (i) if the payment quarter commences on the first day of April in a fiscal year, the period of 3 months commencing on the first day of November immediately before that first day of April,
 - (ii) if the payment quarter commences on the first day of July in a fiscal year, the period of 3 months commencing on the first day of February immediately before that first day of July,
 - (iii) if the payment quarter commences on the first day of October in a fiscal year, the period of 3 months commencing on the first day of May immediately before that first day of October, and
 - (iv) if the payment quarter commences on the first day of January in a fiscal year, the period of 3 months commencing on the first day of August immediately before that first day of January;
- (c) “second adjustment quarter”, in relation to a payment quarter, means
 - (i) if the payment quarter commences on the first day of April in a fiscal year, the period of 3 months commencing on the first day of

Seniors Benefit Act

- 2**(1) Amends chapter S-13.3 of the Statutes of Alberta, 1994.
- (2) Quarterly adjustments of seniors' benefits to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index.

August immediately before that first day of April,

- (ii) if the payment quarter commences on the first day of July in a fiscal year, the period of 3 months commencing on the first day of November immediately before that first day of July,
- (iii) if the payment quarter commences on the first day of October in a fiscal year, the period of 3 months commencing on the first day of February immediately before the first day of October, and
- (iv) if the payment quarter commences on the first day of January in a fiscal year, the period of 3 months commencing on the first day of May immediately before that first day of January.

(2) Where a benefit has been authorized to be paid to a person, the amount of the benefit shall be adjusted quarterly so that the amount that may be paid to that person for a month in any payment quarter commencing after the coming into force of this section is not less than the amount obtained by multiplying

- (a) the amount of the benefit that might have been paid to that person for a month in the 3 month period immediately before that payment quarter

by

- (b) the ratio that the Consumer Price Index for the first adjustment quarter that relates to that payment quarter bears to the Consumer Price Index for the second adjustment quarter that relates to that payment quarter.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (2), the amount of a benefit that may be paid to a beneficiary for any month in a payment quarter shall be not less than the amount of the full monthly benefit that was or may be paid to a beneficiary for any month in the 3 month period immediately before that payment quarter.

Coming into Force

3 This Act comes into force on October 1, 1999.

Coming into Force

3 Coming into force.