

Mr Wayne Potter  
General Manager  
Self-Insurers of South Australia (SISA)  
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Parkside 5063

Email [wayne@sisa.net.au](mailto:wayne@sisa.net.au)

Dear Wayne

**Subject: Proposed Changes to the Return to Work Regulations 2015 – Request for Feedback**

We are writing to inform you of a recent anomaly identified under the *Return to Work Act 2014* (the Act) and the Return to Work Regulations 2015 (the Regulations) relating to worker accommodation and travel expenses. This anomaly was identified through a complaint to the Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector, following which he has requested consultation on a potential change to the Regulations. As the peak body for self-insured employers, we value your input and seek your feedback and comments on the proposed changes to address this issue.

**Background**

In November 2022, it was brought to the attention of the Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector that the Act and Regulations do not allow workers to recover accommodation and travel expenses related to attending a permanent impairment assessment (PIA) after their entitlement to medical expenses has ended under section 33(20) of the Act.

To address this issue, a new regulation has been proposed, which entitles workers to reasonable accommodation and travel costs associated with attending a PIA, regardless of the status of their entitlement to medical expenses.

**Proposed Changes**

The proposed changes include adding a new exception to the rule that a worker's entitlement to medical expenses ends 12 months after the cessation of their entitlement to weekly payments. This new exception would specify that the ceasing of medical entitlements does not apply to reasonable travel and accommodation expenses incurred in relation to attending a PIA.

**Consultation**

ReturnToWorkSA is undertaking a limited consultation with self-insured employers, including providing a factsheet outlining the issue and proposed solution. We have also contacted all self-insured employers and sought their feedback over a six-week period.

We kindly request that SISA consider providing a response on behalf of multiple self-insured employers, if appropriate. ReturnToWorkSA would be happy to meet with SISA to discuss the proposed changes in more detail and address any concerns.

If you have any questions or require further information, do not hesitate to contact Steven Johnson, Manager Government Relations at 0448 787 595 or [steven.johnson@rtwsa.com](mailto:steven.johnson@rtwsa.com)

Please provide any comments, concerns, or suggestions you may have on the proposed changes by Monday 26 June 2023. Your feedback is invaluable to us and will help ensure that the proposed changes are fair and address the needs of all parties involved.

Please send your responses to Attn: James Large, Executive Leader Regulation via [governmentrelations@rtwsa.com](mailto:governmentrelations@rtwsa.com)

We appreciate your time and consideration in reviewing and providing feedback on these proposed changes.

Sincerely,



James Large  
Executive Leader, Regulation

11 May 2023