



**Remuneration Tribunal**  
**Travelling Allowance Rates for**  
**Public Office Holders and Parliamentarians**

**STATEMENT**

In Determinations 2011/15 and 2011/16, the Remuneration Tribunal has updated travelling allowance amounts for offices within its jurisdiction, including for judicial offices and parliamentarians.

The Tribunal has determined travelling allowance amounts for many years, using its power under subsection 7(4) of the *Remuneration Tribunal Act 1973*, as the Tribunal considers that travelling allowance is a matter significantly related to remuneration.

Each year the Tribunal updates the travelling allowance amounts for the various locations, in the main closely reflecting the amounts determined each year by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) as reasonable travel expense amounts.

The ATO released its most recent Determination on 30 June 2011<sup>1</sup>. Consistent with past practice, the Tribunal has considered the ATO amounts and determined adjusted rates, to take effect from the last weekend in August, i.e. any new rates will apply from 28 August 2011.

While most of the rates determined by the Tribunal mirror the ATO's amounts, there are limited exceptions in the case of parliamentarians. The main example is the Canberra rate for parliamentarians which will now be \$253 per night. From the superseded rate, this represents an increase which is similar, in percentage terms, to the increase in the Canberra amount in Table 2 of the ATO Determination. The fact that the Tribunal's determined rate for parliamentarians is substantially less than the ATO's reasonable expense amount for Canberra reflects the Tribunal's view that parliamentarians can make more cost effective arrangements in Canberra because of the extended periods spent there.

**Remuneration Tribunal**  
15 August 2011

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<sup>1</sup> Taxation Determination 2011/17: Income Tax: what are the reasonable travel and overtime meal allowance expense amounts for the 2011-12 income year?