



# **Telecommunications (Universal Service Levy) Act 1997**

**Act No. 53 of 1997 as amended**

This compilation was prepared on 20 November 2009  
taking into account amendments up to Act No. 111 of 2009

The text of any of those amendments not in force  
on that date is appended in the Notes section

The operation of amendments that have been incorporated may be  
affected by application provisions that are set out in the Notes section

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## Notes

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# **An Act to impose a levy in connection with ensuring that standard telephone services, payphones and prescribed carriage services are reasonably accessible to all people in Australia**

## **1 Short title** [see Note 1]

This Act may be cited as the *Telecommunications (Universal Service Levy) Act 1997*.

## **2 Commencement**

This Act commences on 1 July 1997.

## **3 Act to bind Crown**

This Act binds the Crown in right of each of the States, of the Australian Capital Territory, of the Northern Territory and of Norfolk Island.

## **4 Extension to external Territories**

This Act extends to each external Territory referred to in section 8B of the *Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999*.

## **5 Definition**

In this Act:

*participating person* has the same meaning as in Part 2 of the *Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999*.

## **6 Imposition of levy**

If a participating person has a levy debit balance for a claim period because of section 20S of the *Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999*, levy is imposed on that balance.

**7 Amount of levy**

The amount of a levy that this Act imposes on a levy debit balance for a claim period is equal to that balance.

**8 Participating person liable to pay levy**

Levy imposed on a participating person's levy debit balance for a claim period is payable by the participating person.

**Table of Acts****Notes to the *Telecommunications (Universal Service Levy) Act 1997*****Note 1**

The *Telecommunications (Universal Service Levy) Act 1997* as shown in this compilation comprises Act No. 53, 1997 amended as indicated in the Tables below.

For all relevant information pertaining to application, saving or transitional provisions see Table A.

**Table of Acts**

Act	Number and year	Date of Assent	Date of commencement	Application, saving or transitional provisions
<i>Telecommunications (Universal Service Levy) Act 1997</i>	53, 1997	24 Apr 1997	1 July 1997	
<i>Telecommunications (Universal Service Levy) Amendment Act 1999</i>	51, 1999	5 July 1999	1 July 1999	Sch. 1 (item 5)
<i>Telecommunications (Universal Service Levy) Amendment Act 2000</i>	131, 2000	13 Nov 2000	(a)	Sch. 1 (item 6)
<i>Statute Stocktake (Regulatory and Other Laws) Act 2009</i>	111, 2009	16 Nov 2009	Schedule 1 (item 103): 17 Nov 2009	—

**Act Notes**

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(a) Section 2 of the *Telecommunications (Universal Service Levy) Amendment Act 2000* provides as follows:

2 This Act commences, or is taken to have commenced, immediately after the commencement of Schedule 1 to the *Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Amendment Act (No. 2) 2000*.

Schedule 1 commenced on 1 July 2000.



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**Table of Amendments**

**Table of Amendments**

ad. = added or inserted   am. = amended   rep. = repealed   rs. = repealed and substituted

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Provision affected	How affected
Title .....	am. No. 51, 1999; No. 111, 2009
S. 4.....	am. No. 51, 1999; No. 131, 2000
S. 5.....	am. No. 51, 1999; No. 131, 2000
S. 6.....	am. No. 51, 1999 rs. No. 131, 2000
S. 7.....	am. No. 131, 2000
S. 8.....	rs. No. 131, 2000

**Table A**

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**Table A**

*Telecommunications (Universal Service Levy) Amendment Act 1999*  
(No. 51, 1999)

**Schedule 1**

**5 Application**

Despite:

- (a) the amendments made by this Schedule; and
- (b) the repeal of Part 7 of the *Telecommunications Act 1997* by the *Telecommunications Legislation Amendment Act 1999*;

the *Telecommunications (Universal Service Levy) Act 1997* continues to apply, after the commencement of this item, in relation to levy for a financial year that ended on or before 30 June 1999, as if those amendments had not been made and that repeal had not happened.

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*Telecommunications (Universal Service Levy) Amendment Act 2000*  
(No. 131, 2000)

**Schedule 1**

**6 Application**

Despite the amendments made by this Schedule, the *Telecommunications (Universal Service Levy) Act 1997* continues to apply, after the commencement of this item, in relation to levy for a financial year that ended on or before 30 June 2000, as if those amendments had not been made.