

SENIORS — COST-OF-LIVING REBATE

Statement by Minister for Seniors and Ageing

MR D.T. PUNCH (Bunbury — Minister for Seniors and Ageing) [1.30 pm]: I am pleased to inform the house that I recently wrote to over 83 000 Western Australian Seniors Card members who have not yet registered for the 2024 cost-of-living rebate encouraging them to do so. The annual cost-of-living rebate is a state government initiative available to WA Seniors Card members to assist with the rising cost of living. Members must register by 31 May 2024 to receive this year's payment, which will be made in late July. Previously registered members do not need to re-register unless their bank details or circumstances have changed.

More than \$394 million has been paid to WA seniors since the rebate started, and more than 316 000 members received the rebate last year, with singles receiving \$104 and couples receiving \$156. In addition to the cost-of-living rebate, the WA Seniors Card offers some of the most valuable state government concessions and rebates in Australia, including free off-peak public transport, concessions on local government rates and water service charges and the \$400 safety and security rebate. To register for the rebate, members can visit the Seniors Card website—seniorscard.wa.gov.au—for online access to their account or to download an application form. Hard copy application forms can be requested by calling our friendly WA Seniors Card Centre on 1800 671 233 or emailing info@seniorscard.wa.gov.au.

The Cook government is committed to supporting our seniors and is proud that Western Australian Seniors Card members continue to have access to some of the most valuable discounts, concessions and rebates in the country. The cost-of-living rebate can make a significant difference to the cost-of-living pressures for seniors, and I encourage everyone with a WA Seniors Card to make sure they register before 31 May 2024 so they do not miss out.