

HOSPITAL BENEFITS AGREEMENT.

15° and 16° Geo. VI., No. LIII.

No. 53 of 1951.

AN ACT relating to Agreements between the Commonwealth and the State in respect of Hospital Benefits.

[Assented to 2nd January, 1952.]

WHEREAS pursuant to the *Hospital Benefits Agreement Act, 1945*, an agreement was entered into on the eighteenth day of December, one thousand nine hundred and forty-five, between the Commonwealth and the Premier on behalf of the State in relation to hospital benefits, which agreement, pursuant to the *Hospital Benefits Agreement Act, 1948*, was amended by further agreement dated the twenty-first day of February, one thousand nine hundred and forty-nine:

And whereas pursuant to the provisions of the agreement the Commonwealth has given to the State notice, expiring in the month of August, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-two, of the termination of the agreement:

And whereas there has been introduced into the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth Parliament a Bill for an Act relating to the provision of hospital benefits providing for the repeal of the Commonwealth Acts, authorising the execution of the existing agreement by the Commonwealth, and for the continued financial assistance to the State during the existence of the agreement, and for authority for the Commonwealth to enter into a new agreement with the State after the existing agreement ceases to be in force, and for the making of regulations providing for payment of hospital benefits:

And whereas it is likely that if the Bill becomes law it will commence to operate when the Parliament of the State is not in Session:

And whereas it is desirable to give to the Premier on behalf of the State power to agree to terminate the existing agreement and to enter into the new agreement:

Be it therefore enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly of Western Australia, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the *Hospital Benefits Agreement Act, 1951.* Short title.

2. In order that the State may participate in any benefits which may become available if and when the Bill referred to in the preamble to this Act becomes law, the Premier, on behalf of the State, may, by agreement with the Commonwealth, terminate the existing agreement and may enter into any new agreement authorised by the Bill, if and when it becomes law, as one into which the Commonwealth may enter.