

MEDIA RELEASE



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Peak Body disappointed by delays to new Aged Care Act

A leaked memo indicating a delay to the implementation of the new Aged Care Act until 2025 is deeply concerning, according to Carers Australia.

The peak body representing Australia's 2.65 million unpaid carers is calling on the Albanese Government to act without delay and support carers of older people immediately.

The [leaked memo](#) indicated the new Aged Care Act would be introduced by June 2025 with no firm confirmation of a commencement date.

Minister for Aged Care the Hon Anika Wells MP confirmed the Government is reviewing feedback with a view to refining draft legislation ahead of its introduction to Parliament.

Carers Australia is hopeful revisions of the new Aged Care Act will include recommendations made by the Aged Care Royal Commission concerning carers' right to receive timely and tailored supports that address their own needs and enhances their capacity to provide care, both in their interests and in the interests of those they care for.

Carers Australia's chief executive officer Annabel Reid said: "This is a once in a generation opportunity to overhaul the aged care system. While we applaud the government's extensive efforts on the new Aged Care Act, we urge them to finalise a rights-based act as quickly as possible.

"The new act must enshrine the rights of carers and deliver support to this invaluable subset of the Australian economy who all too often are left without adequate support."

ENDS

About Carers Australia and the National Carer Network

Carers Australia is the national peak body representing Australia's carers, advocating to influence policies and services at a national level. The National Carer Network, which consists of Carers NSW, Carers ACT, Carers Victoria, Carers Tasmania, Carers SA, Carers WA, Carers NT, and Carers Queensland, deliver a range of essential carer services across states and territories.

About carers



An informal, unpaid carer is a family member or friend who cares for someone who has a disability, chronic or life-limiting illness, is frail aged, has a mental health illness, alcohol, or other drug-related issue. Informal carers are distinct from paid support workers who are colloquially also called carers but are fully employed and remunerated with all the benefits of employment. Conversely, family carers perform their caring duties without remuneration.

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