Subsequent to our last monthly publication, the following revenue measures have been introduced into Federal Parliament in the current session:

- **Infrastructure Australia Amendment Bill 2013** introduced into the House of Representatives on 20 November 2013 proposes to amend the *Infrastructure Australia Act 2008* which established Infrastructure Australia as an advisory body to governments, investors and infrastructure owners on a wide range of issues. These include Australia’s current and future infrastructure needs; mechanisms for financing infrastructure investments; and policy, pricing and regulation and their impacts on investment and on the efficiency of the delivery, operation and use of national infrastructure networks.

  The provisions in the Bill propose to strengthen the role of Infrastructure Australia, as an independent, transparent and expert advisory body through a change in its governance structure and through better clarification of its functions. The Bill also results in some minor consequential amendments to the designated infrastructure project tax loss rules in Division 417 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 – Cth* (ITAA 1997).

- **Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2013**, introduced into Parliament on 20 November 2013, ensures the current system of paid parental leave will be paid directly by Centrelink from 1 March 2014, to reduce the compliance burden on employers. Subject to employee agreement, employers will still be able to opt-in to provide parental leave pay directly to employees.

- **Legislative instrument – Taxation Administration Act 1953 – PAYG withholding – Occasional payroll donations to deductible gift recipients No 4** - registered on 2 January 2014 enables a variation to the amount of withholding required by a payer under the pay as you go (PAYG) withholding system for payees who make occasional donations to a deductible gift recipient under an occasional workplace giving arrangement.

- **Legislative instrument – Charities (Definition of Government Entity) Instrument 2013** - registered on 20 December 2013 prescribes the types of Government entities to be excluded from the definition of ‘charity’ under the *Charities Act 2013*. 133-130 in Schedule 1 to the *Taxation Administration Act 1953 – Cth* and therefore do not trigger a liability to pay any Division 293 tax under Division 293 of the ITAA 1997.
• Legislative instrument - 
  Superannuation Legislation Amendment (2013 Measures No. 2) Regulation 2013 - 
  registered on 16 December 2013, amends various 
  superannuation regulations to enable the release of 
  superannuation to pay tax 
  arising from certain 
  superannuation contributions, and updates 
  listings of exempt public 
  sector and unfunded defined 
  benefit superannuation 
  schemes.

• Legislative instrument – Tax 
  Laws Amendment (2013 
  Measures No.12) Regulation 
  2013 - registered on 16 
  December 2013, amends a 
  number of income tax and 
  Goods and Services Tax 
  (GST) regulations for minor 
  and technical amendments 
  including the ‘cents per 
  kilometre’ rates for car 
  expenses for the 2013-14 
  income year; deals with 
  payments of ‘assessed GST’ 
  where appropriate to reflect 
  the recent movement of GST 
  to a self-assessment system; 
  updates the list of 
  constitutionally protected 
  funds; ensures the rules for 
  treating certain 
  superannuation interests as 
  multiple superannuation 
  interests apply appropriately; 
  and make various 
  amendments in relation to 
  personal tax offsets.

• Legislative instrument – 
  Customs Amendment 
  (Infringement Notices) 
  Regulation 2013 - registered 
  on 17 December 2013, 
  establishes an infringement 
  notice scheme for the 
  purposes of the Customs and 
  AusCheck Legislation 
  Amendment (organised 
  Crime and Other Measures) 
  Act 2013 - Cth.

Let’s talk

For a deeper discussion of how these issues might affect your business, please contact:

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