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Deputy Richard Bruton T.D.,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ Number: 38393/24

9th October 2024

Dear Deputy Bruton,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) was requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to this Department for response.

To ask the Minister for Health the up-take of the concession in the fair deal means test (details supplied); and if he has considered further changes in the light of experience.

Through which rental income from renting a home of a nursing home resident would only be assessed at 40% of the annual earnings, and through which the proceeds of a home sold after entering a nursing home would still be subjected to the three year cap on assessment for the family home.

The **Regulation of Providers of Building Works and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2022** commenced on 1st November 2022 amending the Nursing Homes Support Scheme Act 2009 in respect of a financial assessment of the person receiving care services by making a provision for the rental income of their eligible principal private residence to be assessed at a lower rate. The reduced rate of assessment was 40% for a single applicant rather than the existing 80% of all other incomes.

A further amendment to the Nursing Homes Support Scheme Act commenced on the **1st February 2024** in respect of the treatment of PPR Rental Income for an NHSS client's financial assessment. The change provided for eligible rental income to be assessed at 0% rather than the previous 40%.

Since the commencement of the change to the NHSS Act 2009 in November 2022, 215 NHSS funded residents have benefited from same.

I hope this clarifies the position.

Yours sincerely,

Ultan Hynes
Head of Service – Nursing Homes Support Scheme