

EA Alert Dated: 21 Feb 2018

EA Alert (04/2018): Changes to the Foreign Domestic Worker (FDW) Levy Framework

Dear Key Appointment Holders and Employment Agencies Personnel,

On 19 February 2018 during the Singapore Budget 2018 speech, Minister for Finance, Mr Heng Swee Keat, announced changes to the Foreign Domestic Worker (FDW) levy framework.

- 2 There are three changes, effective 1 April 2019:
- (i) For the first FDW who is employed without levy concession, the monthly levy will be raised from \$265 to \$300.
 - (ii) For the second FDW who is employed without levy concession, the monthly levy will be raised from \$265 to \$450.
 - (iii) The qualifying age for levy concession under the aged person scheme will be raised from 65 to 67 years, in light of improving life expectancy and health of Singaporeans.
 - (iv) However, all households with persons aged 65 and 66, which are enjoying or have enjoyed the levy concession under the aged person scheme before 1 April 2019, will continue to pay the monthly levy rate of \$60 on and after 1 April 2019.

3 Regardless of these changes, households with Singaporeans who need help with at least one Activity of Daily Living (bathing, dressing, eating, toileting, transferring, walking/moving around) will still qualify for the monthly concessionary levy rate of \$60 under the scheme for persons with disabilities. This is regardless of their age.

4 We seek EAs' assistance to highlight paragraphs 2 and 3 above to employers who do not qualify for the concessionary levy when they hire new FDWs or renew their existing FDW's Work Permit.

5 For more information, please see attached the relevant Budget Annex and FAQs, both of which are also available on MOM's website.

6 MOM will continue to share useful and important information with all EAs through this channel. Please keep your EA email address updated. For further clarification on changes to FDW levy framework, you may contact us at 6438 5122 or through the online feedback form at <http://services.mom.gov.sg/efeedback/Forms/efeedback.aspx>.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

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For Commissioner for Employment Agencies