

Penalty Interest Rates in Victoria.

Statutory interest rates in Victoria are fixed from time to time under the Penalty Interest Rates Act 1983. {See [11.12] and Appendix page 269. } The practice has been, when an alteration is gazetted, to nominate a date from which the new rate is to apply which is not that of publication in the gazette. Sometimes the nominated date is before and sometimes after the date of publication. Thus the latest alteration, gazetted on 26 June 2003, was expressed to take effect on 21 June 2003 and that gazetted on 19 February 1998 was proclaimed to commence on 23 February 1998. It has recently been observed by the Solicitor General that this is not in accord with the statute. Legislation to correct the errors is in contemplation. We set out below the corrected dates for the last few alterations:

19.2.98-25.4.2001 12.3%

26.4.2001-17.9.2002 11.5%

18.9.2002-28.8.2002 12.25%

29.8.2002 -26.12.2002 12. %

27.12.2002 - 26.3.2003 11.5%

27.3.2003 - 25.6.2003 11%

26.6.2003 to date 11.25%