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Rankin residents big winners under Rudd Government's Economic Security Strategy

More than 38,000 Rankin residents will directly benefit from the Rudd Government's Economic Security Strategy, Member for Rankin Craig Emerson said today.

Under the Rudd Government's Economic Security Strategy, pensioners will receive a down payment of \$1400 for singles and \$2100 for couples. Carers, disability support and aged pensioners, seniors and veterans will also benefit.

As well, people who are receiving the Carer Allowance will receive \$1000 for each eligible person being cared for.

Eighteen thousand families receiving Family Tax Benefit A will also receive immediate financial support through the strategy with a one off payment of \$1000 for each eligible child in their care.

"Tens of thousands more will benefit from the flow-on effect of the increased consumer spending," Mr Emerson said.

"This is about delivering real and immediate support to people who need it most, including pensioners, carers and families.

"We're responding to the challenging economic times, and we're meeting the needs of local families and pensioners through this strategy."

The Economic Security Package will also make first home buyers eligible for grants of up to \$21,000 with the "First Home Owners Boost" initiative to bolster construction activity in the housing market.

Additional measures for infrastructure spending and increased training places will ensure that Australia is well-placed into the future to maintain a strong economy.

"Kevin Rudd's strategy goes to the heart of the global financial crisis by strengthening our economy and delivering for working families and pensioners," Mr Emerson said.

"We are acting now for Australia's long-term future in these difficult financial times."

The Rudd Government has taken decisive action to make sure working families and pensioners in the Rankin electorate have a secure future and the benefits of a strong economy.

"Kevin Rudd has announced a \$10.4 billion strategy to strengthen the national economy and support Australian households during a deep and prolonged economic slowdown," Craig Emerson, Federal Member for Rankin said today.

The Australian economy is strong, but to maintain that strength Australia must act decisively and we must act now.

"This includes delivering for more than 38,000 people right here in Rankin," Mr Emerson said.