

1999

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

NATURE CONSERVATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1999

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Circulated by authority of

Kerrie Tucker MLA

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EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Outline

The objective of this Bill is to amend the *Nature Conservation Act 1980* to require that the statutory position of Conservator of Flora and Fauna be filled by a person with specific qualifications and experience in nature conservation.

Clause 1 - provides the short title of the Act

Clause 2 - provides that the Act will commence immediately.

Clause 3 - defines the Principal Act as the *Nature Conservation Act 1980*.

Clause 4 - adds a new subsection to section 7 in the Principal Act dealing with the appointment of the Conservator. The new subsection states that only a person who has graduate qualifications and employment experience in nature conservation may perform the functions of the Conservator.

Clause 5 - adds a new section to the Principal Act which requires that the Minister table a statement in the Assembly on the qualifications and experience of any person appointed to be the Conservator.

Clause 6 - inserts a transitional provision in the Principal Act such that the person who holds the position of Conservator at the time the Bill is gazetted does not have to meet the new qualification requirement. However this transitional provision ceases after 6 months.

Financial implications

There are no costs to Government associated with these amendments.