

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

ANIMAL DISEASES (BEES) REGULATIONS 2000

SUBORDINATE LAW NO. 3 OF 2000

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

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Outline

The Regulations create the offences of keeping bees other than in a frame hive and exposing honey or honeycomb to bees outside a frame hive. These actions are prohibited to minimise the risk of bee diseases being introduced or spread.

Animal Diseases (Bees) Regulations 2000

Formal Clauses

Clauses 1 & 2 are formal requirements. They deal with the short title of the Regulations and commencement provisions.

Clause 3 is an interpretation provision and defines certain terms used in the Regulations.

Clause 4 creates an offence of failing to keep honeybees in a structure known as a "frame hive". This is required for ease of inspections to verify that the hive is free of diseases. A hive other than a frame hive allows the bees to build unstructured comb that cannot be inspected easily to check for any possible infection of exotic or endemic bee diseases. A penalty of either 10 penalty units for a natural person or 50 penalty units for a body corporate is prescribed for a breach of this clause.

Clause 5 creates an offence of exposing honey or honeycomb. This requirement is designed to minimise any cross-infection of kept bees with possible diseases. If honey or honeycomb is exposed, bees from other hives may gain access to that honey. If there is an exotic or endemic disease from the originating hive it can then be spread to other hives. A penalty of either 10 penalty units for a natural person or 50 penalty units for a body corporate is prescribed for a breach of this clause.