

1995

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

FOOD (AMENDMENT) BILL 1995

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

**Circulated by authority of
TERRY CONNOLLY MLA**

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

FOOD (AMENDMENT) BILL 1995

OUTLINE

This Bill amends the Food Act 1992 to require that any food which has been subject to certain treatments (irradiation or genetic engineering) must not be sold in the Australian Capital Territory unless there is a clear notice to the consumer advising the consumer that the food has been so treated.

NOTES ON CLAUSES

Clause 1 :Short Title

This is a formal clause providing for the citation of the legislation as the Food (Amendment) Act 1995

Clause 2 :Commencement

This clause provides for the Act to commence on the day on which it is notified in the Gazette

Clause 3 :Principal Act

This clause identifies the Principal Act as the Food Act 1992

Clause 4 Requirement to label certain food

This is the operative clause in the Act. It inserts a new clause 24A in the Principal Act which will make it an offence to sell food which has been irradiated or is derived from a plant or animal which was subjected to genetic engineering unless a notice advising the consumer of this treatment is displayed conspicuously, and in legible characters, at or near the point of sale. The penalty of \$3000 is the equivalent to existing offences for misleading presentation of food (section 20) and false advertising of food (section 19).