THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

FILM CLASSIFICATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Circulated by authority of the Attorney-General Ms Rosemary Follett

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OUTLINE

The purpose of this Bill is to seek amendment to the Film Classification Act 1971 to allow the Commonwealth Chief Censor t set the requirements for markings on films and film advertising.

This will replace the present system in the ACT under which the requirements for markings on films and film advertising are set out in section 9 of the Film Classification Act 1971.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The Bill will have no effect on income or expenditure.

Notes on Clauses

Clause 1 : Short Title

This clause cites the short title of the Act.

Clause 2 : Principal Act

This clause provides that where the term 'Principal Act' is used, it refers to the Film Classification Act 1971.

Clause 3 : Display of Information about Classification

Clause 3 amends section 5 of the Principal Act -

- (a) by removing from subsection 5(2) the requirement that a film must display the classification assigned to it under the Film and Video Classification Act 1984 of New South Wales or the symbol for the classification;
- (b) by removing from subsection 5(3) the requirement that advertising matter relating to a film must display the classification assigned to the film or the symbol for the classification and inserting a requirement that the advertising matter must bear the determined markings in the determined form and manner and in a clearly visible position;
- (c) by providing (in subsection 5(4)) that the Chief Censor will determine markings for films and film advertising and the form and manner of their display; and
- (d) by providing definitions relating to the interpretation of the Bill.

Clause 4 : Repeal

This clause provides that section 9 of the Principal Act is repealed. That section sets out the symbols to be used for the purposes of classification. Those symbols will in future be specified in the Chief Censor's determinations.

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