

1989

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
OPTOMETRISTS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989**

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by authority of the Minister for
Community Services and Health
Mr Wayne Bruce Berry)

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AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

OPTOMETRISTS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The Optometrists (Amendment) Bill 1989 will amend the Optometrists Act 1956 by the repeal of subsections 23(4), 23(5) and 30(2). These sections prohibit the advertising, canvassing, sanctioning or being associated with advertising of/with respect to optometric services.

The Optometrists (Amendment) Bill has no financial impact considerations either direct or indirect to the Government.

Details of the Optometrists (Amendment) Bill 1989 are as follows:

Section 1 sets out the short title of the Bill.

Section 2 defines "Principal Act" as the Optometrists Act 1956.

Section 3 repeals Subsections 23(4) and (5) of the Principal Act. Subsection 23(4) states that the advertising, canvassing and sanctioning, or being associated with, advertising of optometric services constitutes "unprofessional conduct" for which the ACT Optometrists Board can cancel or suspend an Optometrist's Registration.

Subsection 23(5) states if an optometrist advertises that he or she practises optometry and the places at which he or she practises; publishes a notice that he or she has commenced or resumed practice; or exhibits a notice at his or her practice containing his or her name and qualifications, such advertisement shall not be unprofessional conduct.

Section 4 repeals Subsection 30(2) of the Principal Act. This Subsection makes it an offence for a firm or company to advertise optometric services.