THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SCHOOLS AUTHORITY (AMENIMENT) BILL 1989

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by the authority of MR PAUL WHALAN MLA MINISTER FOR INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION)

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SCHOOLS AUTHORITY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989

In August 1989 the Government established the Ministerial Consultative Communities on Schooling to provide advice to the Minister for Industry Employment and Education on matters relating to public schooling in the Australian Capital Territory. This new committee replaces the Schools Authority Advisory Committee (the Advisory Committee) established under the Schools Authority Act 1976 which provided advice to the Chief Education Officer.

The Schools Authority (Amendment) Bill 1989 formalises this step by repealing those parts of the Schools Authority Act relating to the Advisory Committee.

The Ministerial Consultative Committee on Schooling which, unlike the Advisory Committee, consults directly with the Minister, has formalised the process of ministerial consultation with parents, teachers, unions and, for the first time, students.

The Schools Authority (Amendment) Bill 1989 will not affect revenue.

Details of each clause of the Bill are outlined in the Attachment.

ATTACHMENT

SCHOOLS AUTHORITY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989

Clause 1 cites the Bill, when enacted, as the Schools Authority (Amendment) Act 1989.

Clause 2 provides that references in the Bill to the "Principal Act" will mean the Schools Authority Act 1976.

Clause 3 amends section 4 of the Principal Act by removing the definitions of "Chairperson", "Committee" and "member", which are no longer appropriate.

Clause 4 amends section 6 of the Principal Act by omitting subsection (3A). This removes the requirement for the Chief Education Officer (the Authority) to take account of the Advisory Committee's advice.

Clause 6 repeals Division 2 of Part III of the Act, the effect of which is to remove provisions relating to the establishment and operation of the Advisory Committee.

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