

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

**CLASSIFICATION OF PUBLICATIONS (AMENDMENT)
ORDINANCE (NO. 3) 1989**

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

NO. 62 OF 1989

The *Classification of Publications (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 3) 1989* amends the *Classification of Publications Ordinance 1983* to -

- (a) transfer the literature review function from the Publications Review Board to the Cinematograph Films Board of Review, which is to be renamed the Film and Literature Board of Review;
- (b) enable the Censorship Board to refuse to accept an application for classification unless it is for each State and Territory of Australia (together with respective fees);
- (c) enable the removal of the requirement for all classification decisions to be gazetted except the review of previous decision made in terms of sections 28A, 28B and 28C; and
- (d) provide for an application for review lodged with the Publications Review Board prior to its abolition and before the creation of the Film and Literature Board of Review to be treated as if it were an application to the new Board.

The *Classification of Publications Ordinance 1983*, which commenced on 1 February 1984, provides for publications and films (including videocassettes) in the Australian Capital Territory to be subject to a censorship classification scheme agreed to in July 1983 by Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers with responsibility for censorship matters.

The amendments seek to reflect recent organisational changes which have resulted in the centralising of censorship activity in the Attorney-General's portfolio with the creation of the Office of Film and Literature Classification. The administration of the Censorship review function has been improved by creating the Film and Literature Board of Review. The amendments will empower the Censorship Board to collect a national classification fee and will remove the requirement to Gazette decisions as a form of notification.

AUTHORISED BY THE
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