

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Issued by the Authority of the Minister of State for Science Acting for and on Behalf of the Minister of State for Health

A Bill for a Physiotherapists Registration Ordinance and proposed Physiotherapists Registration Regulations

At present the practice of physiotherapy in the A.C.T. is not controlled by legislation. To protect the public from unqualified persons and to maintain the standards of the profession in the A.C.T. the Bill provides for the registration of those who practice physiotherapy in the A.C.T.

The Bill provides for a Physiotherapists Board consisting of a Chairman and six other members all but one of whom must be physiotherapists. The Bill sets out the conditions under which persons holding Australian or other qualifications will be entitled to be registered by the Board and provides for certificates of registration to be issued to persons who have been registered.

A person other than a registered physiotherapist will be subject to a penalty of \$1,000 if he practices physiotherapy or holds himself out as being qualified to practice physiotherapy.

The Board will be able to cancel the registration of a person whose registration has been obtained by fraud or misrepresentation or whose qualification has been withdrawn or cancelled by the body which granted it. In addition the Board shall be required, where it is satisfied that a person's health is such as to render him unfit to practise, to make an order suspending the registration of that person. Where a person has been refused registration or where his registration has been cancelled or suspended other than pending the holding of an enquiry by the Board that person will be entitled to appeal to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.

The Regulations will prescribe fees payable on application for registration, for annual registration and for other matters and will also prescribe the subjects for examinations to be passed by persons holding foreign qualifications where those qualifications are not themselves sufficient for registration.