

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
LEGAL AID (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1978
NO. 29 OF 1978
EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Legal Aid (Amendment) Ordinance 1978 amends the Legal Aid Ordinance 1977, which established the Legal Aid Commission (A.C.T.), in the following respects:

- . inserts new section 39A to ensure that an applicant for legal assistance or for payment of his costs who has requested that a Review Committee review the decision of a Legal Aid Committee or an officer of the Commission is given an opportunity to present his case in person before the Review Committee and produce any relevant documents to the Review Committee, if he so wishes.
- . provides for financial assistance to be granted by the Legal Aid Commission (A.C.T.) to voluntary legal assistance organisations upon such terms and conditions as the Commission thinks fit and to make consequential amendments to the

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Legal Aid Ordinance in relation to such grants to voluntary organisations.

. expressly empowers the Commission to pay moneys out of the Legal Aid Fund to meet accounts rendered to the Commission by private legal practitioners practising in the Australian Capital Territory in respect of matters that were referred to them by the Australian Legal Aid Office before the date on which the Commission commenced operations. The Commission has taken over the functions of the Australian Legal Aid Office in the Australian Capital Territory.

. corrects printing errors in the original Ordinance and takes account of changes in the Administration Arrangements following the creation of the Ministerial Office of Minister for Finance.