

MOTOR TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE (NO. 2) 1978

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

ORDINANCE No.31 of 1978

The Motor Traffic (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 2) 1978 amends the Motor Traffic Ordinance (the Principal Ordinance) to provide for public transport routes and inserts certain provisions into the Principal Ordinance to control traffic.

Section 3 of the Ordinance amends section 112K of the Principal Ordinance by the addition of a definition of a "public transport route" being a bus only route.

Section 4 of the Ordinance amends section 113 of the Principal Ordinance by creating an exception to the rule of the road that requires vehicles to keep to the left.

Section 5 of the Ordinance inserts a new section 115C in the Principal Ordinance which makes it an offence for a person to drive or park any vehicle other than a Canberra bus on a bus only route.

Section 6 of the Ordinance amends section 116(1) of the Principal Ordinance to allow for the creation of a traffic lane in a public street for use by buses entering bus only routes from public streets.

Section 7 of the Ordinance amends section 117 of the Principal Ordinance by creating an exception to the rule that a driver of a motor vehicle should when passing a vehicle travelling in the opposite direction pass with it on his right side. This exception is necessary in order to allow authorised vehicles to be driven on the right hand side of the road on certain parts of a bus only route.

Section 8 of the Ordinance amends section 120 of the Principal Ordinance by adding a new section 120(2) which provides that a vehicle on a public street travelling in the left hand traffic lane must, at a junction or intersection where a course to be followed by a vehicle turning left is marked on the roadway, follow that course. This provision is necessary to direct vehicles turning left past the entrance to a bus only route where that entrance is next to the entrance to a public street.

Section 9 of the Ordinance amends section 121 of the Principal Ordinance by providing for "keep right" signs. The driver of a motor vehicle is required to drive to the right of such a sign.

Section 10 of the Ordinance amends section 124 of the Principal Ordinance to provide for "give way" signs on a bus only route. This is necessary to control the point on a bus route where the driver of a bus or authorised vehicle must cease driving on the left hand side of the road and drive on the right hand side of the road.

Section 11 of the Ordinance amends section 211 of the Principal Ordinance to allow vehicles other than Canberra buses to enter a bus only route during an emergency or if the vehicle is conveying a member of the Police Force, a person performing duties in connection with the provision of a bus service, or a person engaged in the repair or maintenance of the bus only route or equipment or facilities associated with the route.