

**1998**

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**BOOKMAKERS ACT 1985**

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

**DETERMINATION OF A PLACE TO BE A SPORTS BETTING VENUE**

**INSTRUMENT NO 63 OF 1998**

Circulated by the Authority of **BILL STEFANIAK MLA**

**Minister for Sport and Recreation**

## **Outline**

The *Bookmakers Act 1985* (the Act) governs the activities of bookmakers in the Australian Capital Territory.

Part IIIA of the Act provides for the conduct and control of sports betting. In particular, the legislation empowers the Minister to determine a place to be a sports betting venue.

Section 39B (1) of the Act provides that the Minister may determine a place to be a sports betting venue.

This instrument identifies the area within the ground floor the Acton Stand of the Canberra Racecourse, Block 2, Division of Lyneham to be a sports betting venue.

The ground floor of the Acton Stand has been refurbished to accommodate the licensed sports betting operators. The refurbished area provides a functional and co-ordinated racing and sports betting auditorium.

The area identified in Determination No. 31 of 1996, notified in Gazette No. S67 of 16 April 1996 has been incorporated within the larger facility provided by refurbishing the Acton Stand. The area identified in Determination No. 250 of 1997, notified in Gazette No. S353 of 13 November 1997 was approved to accommodate one sports betting licensee pending the refurbishment of the ground floor of the Acton Stand.

Accordingly, this Determination repeals the earlier approvals as determined sports betting venues as they are no longer relevant.

## **Financial Implications**

There are no direct financial implications from this instrument. Following the establishment of sports betting in the ACT and the licensing of three sports betting operators, turnover trends remain positive. The levels of revenue received by the Government from this service are significant.

The growing accommodation requirements of the sports betting operators signifies the potential business opportunities and economic activity available through the establishment of a first class sports betting service in the ACT.