

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Medical Practitioners Act 1930

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE MEDICAL BOARD

INSTRUMENT NO. 30 OF 1998

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The Medical Board ("the Board") is appointed under Section 7(1) of the *Medical Practitioners Act 1930*. The Board is charged with the general administration of the Act.

The Board currently totals seven members consisting of -

A Chairperson, and 3 other members, appointed in accordance with the *Health Professions Boards (Procedures) Act 1981*, and

3 members elected, as occasion requires, in accordance with the *Health Professions Boards (Elections) Act 1980*

A person is not eligible for appointment as a member unless he/she is a registered medical practitioner and is entitled to practise as a medical practitioner.

The *Medical Practitioners (Amendment) Act 1997* (the Act) was passed in the Legislative Assembly on 9 December 1997. The Act was gazetted on 24 December 1997. The Act amends section 8 of the *Medical Practitioners Act 1930* (Medical Act) to expand the constitution of the Board by including two additional appointed members as community representatives, neither of whom is entitled to be registered by a Board within the meaning of the *Health Professions Boards (Procedures) Act 1981* (Procedures Act) or under the *Dental Technicians and Dental Prosthetists Act 1988*. One of these, however, must be a legal practitioner.

The Government has appointed Mr Ian Curlewis QC as the legal practitioner member. He was admitted to the NSW Bar in 1955 and was appointed as a Queens Council in 1988. He has had extensive experience in private law firms, appearances in the ACT and NSW Supreme Court and the Federal Court. Since retirement he has continued part time practice and consultations.

Two other Professional Boards have community representatives whose appointments are due to expire this year. Thus, it has been decided to include the filling of the remaining community representative position through this process.

Mr Curlewis' appointment is valid to 31 December 1998.

After consideration by Government the appointment were referred to the Social Policy Committee in accordance with the *Statutory Appointments Act 1994*.