

1996

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

BOOKMAKERS ACT 1985

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

DETERMINATION OF RULES FOR SPORTS BETTING

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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 the rules for sports betting

Section 39C (1) of the Act provides that the Minister may, by instrument, determine or vary rules for sports betting.

This instrument varies the rules for sports betting, as determined by Determination No. 158 of 1995 published in Gazette No S279 of 6 November 1995, to provide for betting on the outcome of the annual Academy Awards determined by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

The rules set out the types of contingencies upon which betting is allowed and provides that betting transactions will be settled on the basis of results determined by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences

Financial Implications

It is considered that an increased awareness and interest in the overall sports betting service may be generated by providing for betting on the annual Academy Awards. As a number of Australians have been nominated for awards, the approval of this contingency to be a sports betting event provides an opportunity to obtain exposure and promotional benefit for the sports betting service available in the ACT.

Such awareness is expected to lead to increased levels of turnover and increased revenue to the Government.