

1998

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

MEDIATION ACT 1997

MEDIATION REGULATIONS

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Circulated by authority

of

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BACKGROUND

The *Mediation Act 1997* was passed by the ACT Legislative Assembly on Tuesday 23 September 1997. It was notified in the *ACT Gazette* S300 on 9 October 1997. The substantive provisions of the Act commenced on 1 July 1998.

Section 13 of the Act provides that the Executive may make Regulations for the purposes of the Act.

Subsection 3(1) of the Act defines an "approved agency" as a body or organisation declared by the Regulations to be an "approved agency" for the purposes of the Act.

Section 4 of the Act states that the relevant standards of competency required for the registration of a person as a mediator are the standards specified in an instrument prescribed for this purpose.

One of the purposes of the Act is to provide for the registration of mediators by agencies approved for this purpose. In order to become an "approved agency" an organisation was required to meet certain criteria laid down by the Attorney-General. Those criteria were notified in the *ACT Gazette* No 19 of 13 May 1998.

PURPOSE OF THE REGULATIONS

These Regulations declare those agencies which are approved to register mediators; they also prescribe the competency standards which a person seeking registration by an "approved agency" must satisfy.

Regulation 4

Identifies six organisations which have been declared "approved agencies" for the purposes of the Act.

Regulation 5

Provides that the standards of competency which a person must meet in order to become a registered mediator are those contained in the document titled "ACT Competency Standards for Mediators".