

1997

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR
THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

ELECTORAL ACT 1992

ELECTORAL REGULATIONS (AMENDMENT)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Circulated by authority of

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ELECTORAL REGULATIONS (AMENDMENT)

Explanatory Memorandum

Section 292 of the *Electoral Act 1992* requires that printed electoral matter be authorised with the name and street address of the author or authoriser. Section 295 of the Act allows for exemptions to the authorisation rules to be set out in regulations.

The Electoral Regulations (Amendment) amends the Electoral Regulations to exempt:

- a) letters from sitting MLAs which include their name and an indication that they are a sitting MLA; and
- b) press releases published by or on behalf of sitting MLAs which include their name and an indication that they are a sitting MLA

from the authorisation requirements of sections 292 of the *Electoral Act 1992*.

The authorisation rules are primarily intended to prevent “irresponsibility through anonymity”. Letters from, and press releases published by or on behalf of, sitting MLAs are clearly not anonymous. The effect of these regulations will be to exempt MLAs from the requirement to include a street address on letters and press releases.

The Regulations are made under section 341 of the *Electoral Act 1992*.

The regulations are to commence on the day on which they are notified in the *Gazette*.