

1994

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

POISONS AND DRUGS (AMENDMENT) BILL (NO. 3) 1994

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Circulated by authority of the Minister for Health
Terry Connolly MLA

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OUTLINE

This Bill amends the *Poisons and Drugs Act 1978* (the Principal Act). The Principal Act adopts by reference schedules 1 to 8 of the Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Drugs and Poisons as recommended and published by the National Health and Medical Research Council.

The National Drugs and Poisons Schedule Committee revises and maintains the Standard to facilitate uniform scheduling under State and Territory legislation. The Committee is now under the auspices of the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (AHMAC). The first Standard published under AHMAC is effective from 18 December 1994.

The purpose of the Bill is to amend the Principal Act to reflect that the Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Drugs and Poisons will be published by AHMAC from 18 December 1994. This will ensure that the scheduling of drugs and poisons in the ACT remains up to date.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

This Bill has no revenue or cost implications.

CLAUSE NOTES

Formal Clauses

Clauses 1, 2 and 3 are formal requirements. They refer to the short title and commencement of the Bill, and the definition of the Principal Act. The amending Act will commence on 18 December 1994.

Clause 4 - Interpretation

This clause reflects the change of publisher of the Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Drugs and Poisons from the National Health and Medical Research Council to the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council.