

1992

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

CRIMES (AMENDMENT) BILL (NO. 3) 1992

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

**Circulated by the authority of
Terry Connolly MLA
Attorney-General**

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CLAUSE NOTES

Clauses 1, 2 and 3: Short title, Commencement and Principal Act

These clauses are formal. They contain the short title, the commencement date and a short form reference to the Principal Act.

The proposed Act will commence upon Gazettal.

Clause 4: Insertion

This clause inserts a new section, 545A, into the Act. This section makes it an offence for a person to fight with another person in a public place. 'Public place' is defined in section 8 of the Principal Act. Breach of this section attracts a penalty of \$1,000.

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OUTLINE

This Bill amends the *Crimes Act 1900* to create an offence of fighting in a public place. It is intended that this offence provide an additional avenue for prosecuting violent behaviour in a public place to that found in section 546A of the Crimes Act, a provision which makes it an offence to publicly behave in a riotous, indecent, offensive or insulting manner in the proximity of another person. The new offence does not require the offending behaviour to occur in the presence of a third person.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Bill is intended to be budget neutral.