

EDUCATION AMENDMENT BILL 2006 (NO. 2)

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

**Circulated by Andrew Barr MLA
Minister for Education and Training**

Overview

This Bill clarifies and expands on the requirement in the *Education Act 2004* for the Minister, before closing or amalgamating a government school, to consult adequately with affected school communities during a period of at least six months.

Summary of Clauses

Clause 1 – Name of Act

This Act is the *Education Amendment Act 2006 (No. 2)*.

Clause 2 – Commencement

This clause provides for commencement on the day after notification.

Clause 3 – Legislation amended

This Act amends the *Education Act 2004*.

Clause 4 – New section 20 (6) and (7)

New subsection (6) places requirements on the Minister to ensure that adequate consultation is undertaken on a proposal to close or amalgamate a government school.

New subsection (7) sets out five principles which must govern consultation on a proposal to close or amalgamate a government school.