

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SEAT OF GOVERNMENT (ADMINISTRATION) ACT 1910

LEGAL PRACTITIONERS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE (No. 2) 1990

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

No. 11 of 1990

The Legal Practitioners (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 2) 1990 (the proposed Ordinance) makes amendments to the Legal Practitioners Ordinance 1970 to alter the operation and examination of trust accounts and to alter the qualifications of firms of auditors eligible to conduct trust account audits.

Section 1 provides that the proposed Ordinance may be cited as the Legal Practitioners (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 2) 1990.

Section 2 defines the Principal Ordinance to mean the Legal Practitioners Ordinance 1970.

Section 3 amends section 52 of the Principal Ordinance to provide that the Law Society is to be informed of the bank account numbers of trust accounts.

Section 4 amends section 57 of the Principal Ordinance to remove the need for quarterly statements to be prepared where there are no trust funds held at the end of the period and to require that a reconciliation is made of the trust bank account with funds actually held.

Section 5 amends section 59 of the Principal Ordinance to alter the qualifications for firms of auditors so that only one principal of the firm is required to be a registered company auditor within the meaning of the Companies Act 1981.

Section 6 amends section 61 of the Principal Ordinance by altering the date of lodgment of audit reports from 30 June to 31 May and inserts new subsection (2A) to provide that where a firm of auditors prepares a report, the report shall be signed by a registered company auditor within the meaning of the Companies Act 1981.

Section 7 amends section 62 of the Principal Ordinance by inserting a new subsection (2) to provide that interim reports made by a firm of auditors are to be signed by a registered company auditor.

Section 8 inserts a new section 74AA to provide for the establishment and operation of a Statutory Deposits Trust Account.

Authorised by the
Attorney-General