

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

HEALTH PROFESSIONS BOARDS (ELECTIONS) (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1988

No. 60, 1988

The Health Professions Boards (Elections) (Amendment) Ordinance 1988 (the amending Ordinance) amends the Health Professions Boards (Elections) Ordinance 1980 (the Principal Ordinance) to change references to matters concerning nurses and the Nurses Registration Board in the Principal Ordinance so that they correspond to references used in the new new Nurses Ordinance 1988.

The Principal Ordinance outlines an electoral process for health professional registration boards. As with other boards, half the members of the Board, (apart from the Chairperson) will be elected rather than appointed.

Details of the amending Ordinance are set out in the Attachment.



ATTACHMENT

Section 1 provides for the short title of the amending Ordinance which is the Health Professions Boards (Elections) (Amendment) Ordinance 1988.

Section 2 provides that the amending Ordinance comes into operation on such date as is fixed by the Minister of State for the Arts and Territories by notice in the Gazette.

Section 3 refers to the Principal Ordinance as being the Health Professions Boards (Elections) Ordinance 1980.

Section 4 updates terminology used in the Principal Ordinance to correspond to that used in the new new Nurses Ordinance 1988, such as reference to Nurses Board and Chairperson.

Section 5 amends section 8 to update the terminology of the provision in line with the Nurses Ordinance 1988. Section 8 of the Principal Ordinance outlines who may nominate to be elected to the Nurses Registration Board. As with the Principal Ordinance the amendment still provides that only registered nurses may nominate for election to the Nurses Board. This is because the registered nurse is more highly trained and part of a numerically larger group than the enrolled persons. The interests of enrolled persons are protected through the appointment mechanism in paragraph 5(a) of the Nurses Ordinance, 1988 which provides that up to 2 enrolled persons may be appointed to the Nurses Board.

Section 6 amends Schedule 1 of the Principal Ordinance to change references in various forms so that they refer to the Nurses Board.