

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

CORONERS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1986

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

No 70, 1986

This Ordinance amends section 29 of the Coroners Ordinance 1956 ('the Principal Ordinance') consequent upon the amendments to the Magistrates Court Ordinance 1930 contained in the Magistrates Court (Amendment) Ordinance (No.2) 1986.

The Principal Ordinance establishes the ACT Coroners Court. Section 29 applies the provisions of the Magistrates Court Ordinance 1930 relating to the recording of proceedings in the Magistrates Court and the obtaining of transcripts of those proceedings to proceedings at an inquest or inquiry under the Principal Ordinance.

Details of the Ordinance are as follows:

Section 1 provides that the Ordinance may be cited as the Coroners (Amendment) Ordinance 1986.

Section 2 provides that the Ordinance is to come into force on a date fixed by notice in the Gazette.

Section 3 amends sub-section 29(2) of the Principal Ordinance which, inter alia, applied sub-section 255B(1) of the Magistrates Court Ordinance 1930 (this sub-section required transcripts to be made automatically in respect of certain proceedings in the Magistrates Court) to proceedings at an inquest or inquiry before the Coroners Court. The amendment, which is consequent upon the amendments contained in the Magistrates Court (Amendment) Ordinance (No.2) 1986, has the effect of removing the requirement that transcripts be made automatically of

proceedings at a Coronial inquest or inquiry. Instead, as with proceedings under the Magistrates Court Ordinance 1930, the tapes of the proceedings are to be kept indefinitely unless a request for a transcript is made, in which case the usual provision as to erasure after 7 years will apply.

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Authorised by the
Attorney-General