

**AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**  
**CHILD WELFARE (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1985**

**ORDINANCE NO. 59 1985**

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

The Child Welfare Ordinance 1957 (the Principal Ordinance) prescribes, amongst other things a number of sentencing options for young offenders. Under the former scheme in the Principal Ordinance all young offenders committed to an institution had to be taken to a NSW institution. The Child Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance 1985 permits the formal introduction of a committal programme which involves the ACT community in looking after its own young offenders. Details of each of the sections of the ordinance are set out below.

Section 1 cites the short title of the Ordinance as the Child Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance 1985.

Section 2 defines the 'Principal Ordinance' for the purposes of the Ordinance as the Child Welfare Ordinance 1957.

Section 3 of the Ordinance amends the Principal Ordinance by deleting the definition of institution as a State institution and substituting a definition which includes both state institutions and institutions established under the Ordinance.

Section 4 of the ordinance amends the Principal Ordinance to allow the Minister to establish institutions in the ACT.

Section 5 of the Ordinance amends the Principal Ordinance to allow the Minister to exercise wardship powers in relation to those children committed to an institution in the ACT whilst at that institution.

Ord. 35/85