

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Education Ordinance 1937 - Amendments

The A.C.T. Education Ordinance 1937 provides for the general administration of the schools system in the A.C.T.

The provisions at Part II of the Ordinance concerning compulsory attendance of children at schools are currently based on the requirement that a child residing within a certain distance of an appropriate school must attend school. The distance is expressed as either a walking distance (3 kilometres or 5 kilometres depending on the age of the child) or as a distance where the fare payable on an available "motor omnibus or other conveyance" does not exceed five cents. As this amount is no longer realistic (the standard fare on a school omnibus now exceeds seven cent), and as there seems a likelihood that omnibus fares will vary from time to time, this Amending Ordinance now replaces the fare criterion with one based on the number of omnibus journeys a child undertakes to travel each way to and from the nearest appropriate school. The amending Ordinance defines the term "appropriate school" as a school, either a primary school, a high school or a secondary college, which is appropriate to the child's needs.

Section 34 of the Ordinance currently provides for the Minister to refuse admission of a child to a government school. As the Schools Authority Ordinance 1976 now provides for the administration of government schools, it is no longer necessary for the Education Ordinance to make such a provision.


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