

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY  
FIRE BRIGADE ORDINANCE 1974

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The Fire Brigade Ordinance 1974 will amend the Fire Brigades Ordinance 1957-1966 to strengthen the regulatory powers available to the Australian Capital Territory Fire Brigade. The amendments will:

- . make it an offence to obstruct a fire stairway or other exit or to fail to repair to replace a defective fire appliance;
- . empower the Fire Commissioner to apply to the Court of Petty Sessions for a closure order in respect of dangerous premises. An appeal will lie to the Supreme Court;
- . increase all monetary penalties to reflect both present-day monetary values and the gravity of the offence involving possible loss of life and destruction of property.

The Ordinance will also amend the existing Ordinance to take cognizance of the new A.C.T. Fire Brigade established under the Fire Brigade (Administration) Ordinance 1974.