

Australian Capital Territory

# Civil Law (Wrongs) Professional Standards Council Appointment 2014 (No 2)

Disallowable instrument DI2014–276

made under the

**Civil Law (Wrongs) Act 2002, schedule 4, section 4.38 (Membership of council)**

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

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All States and Territories have enacted legislation which enables the establishment of a national Professional Standards Council, which is made up of individual jurisdictional councils. The objects of the legislation are to constitute Professional Standards Councils, to enable the creation of schemes to limit the civil liability of professionals and others, to facilitate the improvement of occupational standards, and to protect consumers.

Section 4.36 of schedule 4 of the *Civil Law (Wrongs) Act 2002* provides for the establishment of the ACT Professional Standards Council (ACT Council). The ACT Council consists of eleven people appointed by the Minister who have the experience, skills and qualifications the Minister considers appropriate to enable them to make a contribution to the work of the ACT Council.

All States and Territories have agreed to appoint the same eleven members to their Professional Standards Councils. The Professional Standards Councils will be comprised of one member nominated by each of the States and Territories and the Commonwealth, with the exception of NSW and Victoria, which will nominate two.

The appointment of Ms Esther Alter, the previous Victorian nominee, on the ACT Council expired on 30 June 2014.

Victoria re-appointed Ms Alter to their Professional Standards Council as a member and Deputy Chair from 1 July 2014 to 30 July 2017.

The instrument appoints Ms Alter as a member of the Professional Standards Council and as Deputy Chair of the Professional Standards Council from the day after notification until 30 June 2017. This appointment ensures that Victoria is represented on the ACT Council.

Ms Alter is not a public servant as defined under the *Legislation Act 2001*. As required by the Legislation Act, the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety has been consulted on the appointment. The Committee has provided no comment on the appointment.