

Civil Law (Wrongs) Professional Standards Council Appointment 2021 (No 1)

Disallowable instrument DI2021–19

made under the

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

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

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.

Section 4.36 of schedule 4 of the *Civil Law (Wrongs) Act 2002* provides for the establishment of the ACT Professional Standards Council (ACTPSC). The ACTPSC 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 ACTPSC. The ACTPSC assesses and approves applications for Professional Standards schemes which limit the civil liability of occupational associations' members. The ACTPSC has an important role in facilitating the improvement of occupational standards and in protecting consumers across Australia.

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 Commonwealth has appointed Mr Richard Shields as a member of its Professional Standards Council until 9 August 2023.

The instrument appoints Mr Richard Shields as a member of the ACTPSC until 9 August 2023.

The Minister is satisfied that Mr Shields possesses the experience, skills and qualifications to enable him to make a contribution to the work of the ACTPSC.

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