

**2023**

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE  
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**TENTH ASSEMBLY**

**Biosecurity Bill 2023**

**Supplementary Explanatory Statement – Government Amendments**

**Presented by  
Rebecca Vassarotti MLA  
Minister for the Environment  
November 2023**

# BIOSECURITY BILL 2023

This explanatory statement relates to the Biosecurity Bill 2023 (the Bill) as presented to the ACT Legislative Assembly and deals with Government amendments to the Bill.

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the Bill and the original Explanatory Statement provided at the time when the Bill was introduced.

It has been prepared to assist the reader. It does not form part of the Bill, has not been endorsed by the Assembly, and is not to be taken as providing a definitive interpretation of the meaning of a provision.

## GOVERNMENT AMENDMENT TO THE BIOSECURITY BILL 2023

### **Fertilisers (Labelling and Sale) Act 1904**

The government amendment to the Biosecurity Bill 2023 omits clause 235 (1), 3<sup>rd</sup> dot point of the bill to provide that the *Fertilisers (Labelling and Sale) Act 1904* (Fertilisers Act) will not be repealed by the bill.

The review and updating of legislative provisions for fertiliser labelling, sale and use was contingent upon the development of a national fertiliser code of practice. The national code has yet to be finalised.

The Fertilisers Act relates to agricultural policy matters. The Biosecurity Bill 2023 provided a convenient administrative mechanism through which fertiliser provisions could be introduced through consequential amendments to the *Environment Protection Regulation 2005*.

This amendment will not impact the powers of the Biosecurity Bill in providing a supportive legislative framework for the ACT biosecurity system.

There are no human rights implications associated with this Government amendment.