

Legal Aid (Commissioner – Bar Association Nominee) Appointment 2025

Disallowable instrument DI2025-202

made under the

Legal Aid Act 1977, s 16 (Constitution of board)

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The *Legal Aid Act 1977* (the Act), at section 14, provides for the establishment of the board of the Legal Aid Commission (the Board). The functions of the Board are to determine the broad policies, priorities and strategies of the Commission for the provision of legal assistance, and to ensure that the commission's affairs are managed in accordance with the Act.

Section 16 (1) (c) (ii) of the Act provides that the Board must be constituted by a commissioner chosen from a panel of not less than three people nominated by the council of the bar association.

This instrument reappoints Ms Prue Bindon as part-time member of the Board and commissioner of the Board for a period of three years commencing on 12 August 2025.

Members of the board appointed by the Minister are appointed on a part-time basis, under section 16(4) of the Act.

Ms Bindon is reappointed to the Board after consultation with the Council of the ACT Bar Association and the President of the Board pursuant to s 16 (5) of the Act. For her initial appointment in 2022 [DI2022-188] she was chosen from a panel of three members nominated by the Council of the ACT Bar Association. Ms Bindon is not a public servant.

Under section 228 of the *Legislation Act 2001*, this appointment required consultation with the Legislative Assembly Standing Committee on Legal Affairs. The Committee advised that it had no recommendations to make.