[Act 2002 No 73]



Miscellaneous Acts Amendment (Relationships) Bill 2002

Explanatory note

This explanatory note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament.*

Overview of Bill

The object of this Bill is to amend certain Acts and a Regulation in respect of certain references to spouses to provide for those references to include persons in a de facto relationship within the meaning of the *Property* (*Relationships*) *Act* 1984.

For the purposes of the *Property (Relationships) Act 1984*, a de facto relationship is a relationship between two adult persons:

- (a) who live together as a couple, and
- (b) who are not married to one another or related by family.

A de facto relationship can be a same sex relationship.

In determining whether two persons are in a de facto relationship, all the circumstances of the relationship are to be taken into account including certain

^{*} Amended in committee—see table at end of volume.

matters specified in section 4 (2) of the *Property (Relationships) Act 1984* as may be relevant.

The following Acts are amended by this Bill:

- (a) Adoption Act 2000,
- (b) Adoption Information Act 1990,
- (c) Conveyancers Licensing Act 1995,
- (d) *Credit Act 1984*,
- (e) Crimes (Administration of Sentences) Act 1999,
- (f) Criminal Procedure Act 1986,
- (g) Defamation Act 1974,
- (h) Dentists Acts 1989,
- (i) Electricity (Pacific Power) Act 1950,
- (j) Evidence Act 1995,
- (k) Health Insurance Levies Act 1982,
- (1) Industrial Relations Act 1996,
- (m) Landlord and Tenant Act 1899,
- (n) Landlord and Tenant (Amendment) Act 1948,
- (o) Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1946,
- (p) Legal Profession Act 1987,
- (q) Local Courts (Civil Claims) Act 1970,
- (r) Motor Vehicles Taxation Act 1988,
- (s) Police Service Act 1990,
- (t) Public Sector Management Act 1988,
- (u) Sporting Injuries Insurance Act 1978,
- (v) Teaching Services Act 1980,
- (w) Transport Administration Act 1988,
- (x) Trustee Companies Act 1964.

The Regulation amended is the *Residential Tenancies (Residential Premises)* Regulation 1995.

Outline of provisions

Clause 1 sets out the name (also called the short title) of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides for the commencement of the proposed Act on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation.

Clause 3 is a formal provision giving effect to the amendments to the Acts and the Regulation set out in Schedule 1.

Clause 4 is a formal provision that provides that the matter appearing under the headings "Explanatory note" in Schedule 1 does not form part of this Act

Schedule 1 contains the amendments to the Acts and the Regulation.

The explanatory notes to the amendments provide further explanation of the relevant amendments.