

Unlawful Gambling Amendment (Betting) Bill 2000

Explanatory note

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

Overview of Bill

The object of this Bill is to clarify the application of unlawful betting offences under the *Unlawful Gambling Act 1998* with respect to bets made with persons outside the State.

At present, section 8 (3) of that Act makes it an offence for a person to bet on an Australian race (otherwise than with a bookmaker or totalizator authorised by this State or any other State or Territory) if the bet is made by telephone, the Internet, subscription TV or other on-line communication systems. Section 8 (6) of the Act sets out general exceptions to betting prohibitions.

The Bill amends section 8 of that Act, to make it clear that:

- (a) the offence under section 8 (3) extends to a bet that is made by a person while in the State even though the other person with whom the bet is made is outside the State (including outside Australia), and
- (b) the general exceptions to betting prohibitions (including the exception for betting when on a licensed racecourse) do not apply to the offence under section 8 (3).

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 the date of assent.

Clause 3 is a formal provision giving effect to the amendments to the *Unlawful Gambling Act 1998* set out in Schedule 1.

Schedule 1 contains the amendments outlined above.