

Occupational Health and Safety Amendment (Police Officers) 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 confirm that police officers are employees of the Crown for the purposes of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 1983*. The Bill removes any doubt about the status of police officers under the Act that may arise because police officers exercise independent functions.

The Bill makes it clear that the Crown's obligation as an employer with respect to the occupational health and safety of police officers applies only while police officers are on duty. A police officer may be on duty because the officer is officially rostered for duty or because the officer acts as a police officer when not officially rostered for duty. The Bill will apply to pending proceedings under the Act.

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 Schedule of amendments to the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 1983*.

Schedule 1 contains the amendments outlined above.