

New South Wales

# Summary Offences Amendment (Limitation on Offensive Language) Bill 2025

## Explanatory note

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

## Overview of Bill

The object of this Bill is to amend the *Summary Offences Act 1988* to limit the scope of the offence of offensive language to require the offensive language to be used in a hostile or threatening way.

## 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 to the proposed Act.

## Schedule 1      Amendment of Summary Offences Act 1988 No 25

**Schedule 1** amends the offence of offensive language to require the offensive language to be used in a hostile or threatening way.



New South Wales

# Summary Offences Amendment (Limitation on Offensive Language) Bill 2025

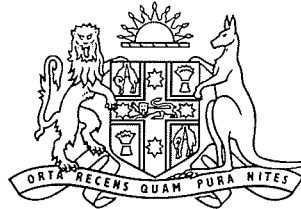
## Contents

|            |  | Page |
|------------|--|------|
|            | 1 Name of Act                                | 2    |
|            | 2 Commencement                               | 2    |
| Schedule 1 | Amendment of Summary Offences Act 1988 No 25 | 3    |

*This PUBLIC BILL, originated in the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL and, having this day passed, is now ready for presentation to the LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY for its concurrence.*

*Legislative Council*

*Clerk of the Parliaments*



New South Wales

## **Summary Offences Amendment (Limitation on Offensive Language) Bill 2025**

No , 2025

---

### **A Bill for**

An Act to amend the *Summary Offences Act 1988* to limit the scope of the offence of offensive language to require the offensive language to be used in a hostile or threatening way.

---

*The LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY has this day agreed to this Bill with/without amendment.*

*Legislative Assembly*

*Clerk of the Legislative Assembly*

---

**Tabling copy**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>The Legislature of New South Wales enacts—</b>   | 1 |
| <b>1 Name of Act</b>  | 2 |
| This Act is the <i>Summary Offences Amendment (Limitation on Offensive Language) Act 2025</i> . | 3 |
|   | 4 |
| <b>2 Commencement</b>   | 5 |
| This Act commences on the date of assent to this Act.   | 6 |

|                   |   |   |
|-------------------|---|---|
| <b>Schedule 1</b> | <b>Amendment of Summary Offences Act 1988 No</b>                                      | 1 |
|                   | <b>25</b>   | 2 |
|                   | <b>Section 4A Offensive language</b>  | 3 |
|                   | Insert “in a hostile or threatening way” after “offensive language” in section 4A(1). | 4 |