

#### 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 Companion Animals Act 1998 to allow dogs in outside eating areas, such as cafe tables on footpaths.

#### 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 Companion Animals Act

1998 No 87

Schedule 1 [2] provides that a dog is not prohibited from being in an outside eating area despite existing provisions in the Companion Animals Act 1998, the Food Act 2003 and the Food Standards Code under that Act that prohibit dogs from being in food preparation and consumption areas. These provisions will not prohibit a dog

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#### Companion Animals Amendment (Dogs in Outside Eating Areas) Bill 2010

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from being in an outside eating area as long as the dog is under the effective control of a competent person, is kept on the ground and is restrained by a chain, cord or leash that is not more than 1 metre in length.

An outside eating area is defined as an area in which food is consumed by humans that is not enclosed and that can be entered by the public without passing through an enclosed area in which dogs are prohibited by the Companion Animals Act 1998.

Schedule 1 [1] includes a note in the provision of the Companion Animals Act 1998 that prohibits dogs from being in food preparation/consumption areas to draw attention to the new provision.