

Defamation Amendment (Costs) Bill 2002

Explanatory note

Overview of Bill

The object of this Bill is to provide that, in proceedings for defamation, the amount of party/party costs payable to the plaintiff is not to exceed the amount of the damages ordered to be paid to the plaintiff.

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

Schedule 1 Amendments

Schedule 1 [1] inserts proposed section 57A in the *Defamation Act 1974* to provide that, in proceedings for defamation, the amount of party/party costs payable to the plaintiff is not to exceed the amount of the damages ordered to be paid to the plaintiff.

Schedule 1 [2] inserts a transitional provision to provide that proposed section 57A does not apply in respect of proceedings commenced before the date of assent to the proposed Act.