

**Explanatory note**

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

**Overview of Bill**

The object of this Bill is to provide that, in proceedings for defamation, a court is not to make an order for the payment of the plaintiff's costs unless the amount of the damages ordered to be paid to the plaintiff exceeds \$25,000.

**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 amendment to the *Defamation Act 1974* set out in Schedule 1.

**Schedule 1 Amendment**

**Schedule 1** inserts proposed section 48B in the *Defamation Act 1974* to provide that a court is not to make an order in proceedings for defamation for the payment of the plaintiff's costs by any other party to the proceedings unless the amount ordered to be paid to the plaintiff as damages exceeds \$25,000.