



New South Wales

# Parliamentary Budget Officer Amendment Bill 2019

## 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 *Parliamentary Budget Officer Act 2010* in relation to the office and functions of the Parliamentary Budget Officer (**PBO**), including:

- (a) providing for the office of PBO to continue on an ongoing basis throughout successive terms of Parliament, rather than being limited to the periods immediately preceding and following a State general election, and
- (b) authorising the PBO, at the request of a member of Parliament at any time during a term of Parliament, to prepare costings of policies proposed by the member and provide analysis, advice or briefings of a technical nature on financial, fiscal and economic matters, and
- (c) enabling the parliamentary leaders of any registered party and independent members of Parliament to request the preparation of election policy costings by the PBO, and
- (d) requiring the PBO to prepare and give to the Public Accounts Committee of the Legislative Assembly an annual report relating to the activities of the PBO in the preceding year, and
- (e) extending the period to which each operational plan of the PBO is required to relate (from the periods immediately preceding and following a State general election) to an entire term of Parliament.

## 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 1 July 2019 or the date of assent to the proposed Act, whichever is later.

**Schedule 1** amends the *Parliamentary Budget Officer Act 2010* in the manner described in the above overview.