



New South Wales

# Crimes (Domestic and Personal Violence) Amendment (Coercive Control—Preethi’s Law) Bill 2020

## 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 *Crimes (Domestic and Personal Violence) Act 2007* to create an offence of engaging in conduct that constitutes coercive control in a domestic relationship.

## 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 Crimes (Domestic and Personal Violence) Act 2007 No 80

**Schedule 1** proposes to insert new sections 14A–14D. **Proposed section 14A** creates an offence of engaging in conduct that constitutes the coercive control of another person with whom the person has, or has had, a domestic relationship (*coercive control*). The offence carries a maximum penalty of imprisonment for 5 years or a fine of \$5,500, or both. The provision also sets out conduct that constitutes the coercive control of another person.

**Proposed section 14B** creates an offence of coercive control in circumstances of aggravation. That offence carries a maximum penalty of imprisonment for 10 years or a fine of \$13,200, or both.

**Proposed section 14C** extends the application of proposed sections 14A and 14B to conduct that occurs outside NSW.

**Proposed section 14D** creates a defence of reasonableness.