c2021-227B OPP--OPPOSITION

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Public Interest Disclosures Bill 2021

First print

Proposed amendments

No. 1 Serious wrongdoing

Page 4, clause 13. Insert after line 36—

Note— The categories of serious wrongdoing mentioned in paragraphs (a)–(e) are further defined in the Dictionary in Schedule 2.

No. 2 Public officials

Page 5, clause 14(1). Insert after line 3—

(ea) a person providing goods or services to an agency, including a contractor, subcontractor or volunteer,

No. 3 Public officials

Page 5, clause 14(1). Insert after line 7—

(fa) if an entity, under a contract, subcontract or other arrangement, is to provide goods or services to an agency—an employee, partner, officer, contractor, subcontractor or volunteer of the entity who is to be, or is, involved in providing the goods or services,

No. 4 Content of disclosures—disagreement with government policy

Page 10, clause 26(2), lines 20 and 21. Omit "to the extent that the information disclosed relates". Insert instead "if the information disclosed relates only".

No. 5 Content of disclosures—employment grievances

Page 10, clause 26(3), lines 25-28. Omit all words on those lines. Insert instead—

- (3) A disclosure does not comply with this section if the information disclosed—
 - (a) concerns only a grievance about a matter relating to the employment or former employment of an individual, and

No. 6 Disclosures to members of Parliament or journalists—truth

Page 11, clause 28(1)(a), line 17. Omit "substantially true". Insert instead "made believing honestly, and on reasonable grounds, the disclosure shows or tends to show serious wrongdoing".

No. 7 Disclosures to members of Parliament or journalists—truth (to be moved only if No. 6 does not succeed or is not moved)

Page 11, clause 28(1)(a), line 17. Omit all words on that line.

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No. 8 Disclosures to members of Parliament or journalists—anonymity

Page 11, clause 28(1)(c), line 21. Omit all words on that line.

No. 9 Injunctions

Page 17, clause 37(1), line 40. Insert "future" after "possible".

No. 10 Standard of proof

Page 19, clause 39. Insert after line 9—
Note— See also section 86A.

No. 11 Standard of proof

Page 39. Insert after line 22—

86A Civil proceedings—standard of proof

To avoid doubt, the civil standard of proof applies in civil proceedings under this Act.