

FIRST PRINT

**NURSES (CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION) AMENDMENT  
BILL 1991**

NEW SOUTH WALES



**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

**(This Explanatory Note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament)**

The object of this Bill is to amend the Nurses Act 1991 so as to allow a nurse to decline to take part in the provision of medical treatment or nursing services in respect of which the nurse has a conscientious objection on the grounds of moral or religious belief.

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Clause 1 specifies the short title of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides for the commencement of the proposed Act on the date of assent.

Clause 3 makes the amendment referred to above.

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**NURSES (CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION) AMENDMENT  
BILL 1991**

NEW SOUTH WALES



No.      , 1991

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**A BILL FOR**

An Act to amend the Nurses Act 1991 to provide for conscientious objection by nurses on the grounds of moral or religious beliefs.

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*Nurses (Conscientious Objection) Amendment 1991*

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**The Legislature of New South Wales enacts:**

**Short title**

1. This Act may be cited as the Nurses (Conscientious Objection) Amendment Act 1991.

**Commencement**

2. This Act commences on the date of assent.

**Amendment of Nurses Act 1991 No. 9**

3. The Nurses Act 1991 is amended by inserting after section 43 the following section:

**Conscientious objection**

43A. (1) An accredited nurse has no duty arising under contract or otherwise to take part in any treatment or nursing service in respect of which the nurse has a conscientious objection on the grounds of moral or religious belief.

(2) In any legal or other proceedings to which the accredited nurse is a party, a statement by the nurse that he or she has such a conscientious objection is proof, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, of the conscientious objection.

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