

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN  
CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**Education (School Closures Moratorium)  
Amendment Bill 2006**

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

**Circulated by authority of Deb Foskey MLA**

# Education (School Closures Moratorium) Amendment Bill 2006

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

### Outline

This Bill amends the Education Act to ensure that involuntary school closures planned to begin at the end of 2006 cannot proceed until the end of 2007, effectively instituting a one year moratorium.

It reflects the expressed desires of the ACT Parents And Citizens Council and the Canberra Preschool Society; has been supported by the ACT Branch of the Australian Education Union and the Save Our Schools Coalition; and is intended to provide an opportunity for a more collaborative school renewal proposal to be developed.

### Clause 1

The name of the Act

### Clause 2

This is a technical clause, setting out the standard commencement provision.

### Clause 3

This is a technical clause setting out the Act's amendment. The principal Act amended is the *Education Act 2004*.

### Clause 4

Clause 4 inserts two new subsections into section 20.

- Part 4A rules out the closure or amalgamation of any government school until 1 Jan 2008
- Part 4B ensures that any subsequent closure or amalgamation is preceded by a comprehensive analysis of its cost and impact on the community, in addition to satisfying other requirements of the Act.