

Australian Capital Territory

Road Transport (Public Passenger Services) Act 2001 No 62

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Authorised by the ACT Parliamentary Counsel

About this republication

The republished law

This is a republication of the *Road Transport (Public Passenger Services) Act 2001* (including any amendment made under the *Legislation Act 2001*, part 11.3 (Editorial changes)) as in force on 2 December 2002. It also includes any amendment, repeal or expiry affecting the republished law to 2 December 2002.

The legislation history and amendment history of the republished law are set out in endnotes 3 and 4.

Kinds of republications

The Parliamentary Counsel's Office prepares 2 kinds of republications of ACT laws (see the ACT legislation register at www.legislation.act.gov.au):

- authorised republications to which the Legislation Act 2001 applies
- unauthorised republications.

The status of this republication appears on the bottom of each page.

Editorial changes

The *Legislation Act 2001*, part 11.3 authorises the Parliamentary Counsel to make editorial amendments and other changes of a formal nature when preparing a law for republication. Editorial changes do not change the effect of the law, but have effect as if they had been made by an Act commencing on the republication date (see *Legislation Act 2001*, s 115 and s 117). The changes are made if the Parliamentary Counsel considers they are desirable to bring the law into line, or more closely into line, with current legislative drafting practice.

This republication does not include amendments made under part 11.3 (see endnote 1).

Uncommenced provisions and amendments

If a provision of the republished law has not commenced or is affected by an uncommenced amendment, the symbol \boxed{U} appears immediately before the provision heading. The text of the uncommenced provision or amendment appears only in the last endnote.

Modifications

If a provision of the republished law is affected by a current modification, the symbol M appears immediately before the provision heading. The text of the modifying provision appears in the endnotes. For the legal status of modifications, see *Legislation Act 2001*, section 95.

Penalties

The value of a penalty unit for an offence against this republished law at the republication date is—

- (a) if the person charged is an individual—\$100; or
- (b) if the person charged is a corporation—\$500.



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Australian Capital Territory

Road Transport (Public Passenger Services) Act 2001

An Act to regulate public transport services, and for other purposes

Part 1 Preliminary

Section 1

Part 1 Preliminary

Note This Act (including the regulations) forms part of the road transport legislation. Other road transport legislation includes the Road Transport (Alcohol and Drugs) Act 1977, the Road Transport (Dimensions and Mass) Act 1990, the Road Transport (Driver Licensing) Act 1999, the Road Transport (General) Act 1999, the Road Transport (Safety and Traffic Management) Act 1999, the Road Transport (Vehicle Registration) Act 1999 and the regulations made under those Acts. As part of the road transport legislation, this Act is subject to various provisions in the Road Transport (General) Act 1999 about the administration and enforcement of the road transport legislation generally.

1 Name of Act

This Act is the Road Transport (Public Passenger Services) Act 2001.

2 Objects

The objects of this Act include-

- (a) to provide for the accreditation of the operators of public passenger services and taxi networks that operate within or partly within the ACT; and
- (b) to provide for the licensing of vehicles used as taxis within or partly within the ACT; and
- (c) to encourage public passenger services that meet the reasonable expectations of the community for safe, reliable and efficient public passenger services.

3 Dictionary

The dictionary at the end of this Act is part of this Act.

Note 1 The dictionary at the end of this Act defines certain words and expressions used in this Act, and includes references (*signpost definitions*) to other words and expressions defined elsewhere in this Act or in the road transport legislation.

For example, the signpost definition '*bus service*—see section 11 (Meaning of *bus service*).' means that the expression 'bus service' is defined in section 11 of this Act.

Note 2 A definition in the dictionary (including a signpost definition) applies to the entire Act unless the definition, or another provision of the Act, provides otherwise or the contrary intention otherwise appears (see *Legislation Act 2001*, s 155 and s 156 (1)).

4 Notes

A note included in this Act is explanatory and is not part of this Act.

Note See *Legislation Act 2001*, s 127 (1), (4) and (5) for the legal status of notes.

5 Functions of road transport authority

The functions of the road transport authority under this Act are—

- (a) to administer the accreditation schemes established under this Act for the accreditation of the operators of public passenger services and taxi networks; and
- (b) to administer the licensing schemes established under this Act for the licensing of taxis; and
- (c) to keep registers of accreditations given, and licences issued, under this Act; and
- (d) to provide information about accredited and licensed people in accordance with this Act and other laws in force in the ACT; and

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(e) to exercise any other functions given to the authority under this Act.

6 Registers of accredited people and licences

(1) A register of accreditations given, and licences issued, under this Act may include information given to the road transport authority under this Act and any other information the authority considers appropriate.

Note Section 5 (c) requires registers for the following to be kept:

- accredited bus service operators;
- accredited taxi service operators;
- accredited taxi network providers;
- taxi licences;
- restricted taxi licences.
- (2) A register may be kept in the form of, or as part of, 1 or more computer databases or in any other form the road transport authority considers appropriate.
- (3) The road transport authority may correct any mistake, error or omission in a register subject to the requirements (if any) of the regulations.
- (4) This section does not limit the functions of the road transport authority in relation to a register.

7 Disclosure of information in registers

The road transport authority must ensure that information in a register of accreditations or licences that is of a personal nature or has commercial sensitivity for a person about whom it is kept is released only in accordance with this Act or another law in force in the ACT.

8 Trade Practices Act authorisation

For the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (Cwlth) and the Competition Code of the Australian Capital Territory, the following are authorised by this Act:

- (a) everything done under this Act;
- (b) all service contracts made under this Act;
- (c) everything done under a service contract, or a provision of a service contract, authorised by this Act.
- *Note 1* For the Competition Code of the Australian Capital Territory, see the *Competition Policy Reform Act 1996*, s 5 and s 10.
- *Note 2* A reference to an Act includes a reference to statutory instruments made or in force under the Act, including regulations (see *Legislation Act 2001*, s 104).

9 Combinations of accreditations and licences

This Act does not prevent a person from holding any combination of accreditations and licences under this Act.

10 What is a public passenger service?

A *public passenger service* is a service for the transport of passengers for a fare or other consideration by public passenger vehicles along a road or road related area.

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Part 2 Bus services

Division 2.1 Basic concepts

11 Meaning of bus service

A *bus service* is a service for the transport of passengers for a fare or other consideration by a bus along a road or road related area.

12 What is a regular route service?

A bus service is a *regular route service* if it is conducted according to regular routes and timetables, but does not include—

- (a) a bus service designed mainly to transport tourists; or
- (b) a long-distance service.

13 What is a *tour and charter service*?

A bus service is a *tour and charter service* if the bus service is not a regular route service or a long-distance service.

14 What is a *long-distance service*?

A bus service is a *long-distance service* if—

- (a) it is conducted according to regular routes and timetables; and
- (b) each passenger travels at least 40km.

Division 2.2 Accreditation of bus service operators

15 Bus operators—purposes of accreditation

The purpose of accreditation under the regulations to operate a bus service is to ensure that—

- (a) the accredited person has the financial capacity to meet the service standards for the service; and
- (b) the accredited person, and each person who is concerned with, or takes part in, the management of the service, are suitable people to operate the service; and
- (c) the accredited person, and each person who is concerned with, or takes part in, the management of the service, have demonstrated the capacity to comply with the relevant regulations and, in particular, the regulations about—
 - (i) the safety of passengers and the public; and
 - (ii) the maintenance of public buses.

16 Regulations about accreditation system

- (1) The regulations are to provide a system for the accreditation of operators of bus services, including, for example—
 - (a) the kinds of accreditations; and
 - (b) the bus services that a person who holds a kind of accreditation is entitled to operate; and
 - (c) the conditions of accreditations; and
 - (d) matters relating to the giving, refusal or surrender of accreditations; and

- (e) the action that may be taken in relation to accreditations in circumstances prescribed under the regulations, including—
 - (i) the suspension or cancellation of an accreditation; and
 - (ii) the imposition of a condition on, or the amendment of a condition of, an accreditation; and
 - (iii) an order that an accredited person pay to the Territory an amount of not more than—
 - (A) for an individual—\$5 000; or
 - (B) for a corporation—\$25 000; and
 - (iv) the reprimanding of an accredited person.
- (2) The regulations may make provision in relation to the accreditation of people to operate bus services, including, for example—
 - (a) requirements about the suitability of the applicant and each person who will be concerned with, or take part in, the management of the services; and
 - (b) capacity to meet service standards; and
 - (c) financial viability.
- (3) For subsection (1) (a), the regulations must provide for the accreditation of people to operate the following kinds of bus services:
 - (a) regular route services;
 - (b) tour and charter services.
- (4) However, this section does not require the regulations to provide an accreditation system for all kinds of bus services.

Division 2.3 Service contracts for regular route services

17 Service contracts

- (1) The road transport authority may, on behalf of the Territory, enter into a contract (a *service contract*) for the operation of a regular route service with a person accredited to operate regular route services.
- (2) A service contract must state whether the right given under the contract to operate a route is an exclusive right to operate the route or a stated part of the route.
- (3) A service contract may make provision for or with respect to the operation of a regular route service and the administration of the contract, including, for example—
 - (a) service requirements under the contract; and
 - (b) the transfer, suspension, cancellation and surrender of the contract; and
 - (c) the fees (if any) payable under the contract; and
 - (d) the adjustment of payments and refunds in relation to any contract fees; and
 - (e) financial or other penalties for breaches of the contract; and
 - (f) the records (including accounts) to be made and kept by the holder of the contract, how they are to be made and kept, and their inspection; and
 - (g) the provision by the holder of the contract of information and reports about the regular route service and the verification of the information and reports; and
 - (h) the publication and the collection of fares payable by passengers; and

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Division 2.4	Entitlement to operate certain bus services
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- (i) the sale of tickets and the conditions under which tickets must be sold; and
- (j) free or reduced fares for travel; and
- (k) the issue and acceptance of free or concession passes.
- (4) Subsection (3) does not limit the matters about which a service contract may make provision.

Division 2.4 Entitlement to operate certain bus services

18 Entitlement to operate regular route services

A person is entitled to operate a regular route service, within or partly within the ACT, if—

- (a) the person is accredited under the regulations to operate regular route services; and
- (b) the person holds a service contract for the service.

19 Entitlement to operate tour and charter services

A person is entitled to operate a tour and charter service, within or partly within the ACT, if the person is accredited under the regulations to operate tour and charter services.

20 Unaccredited operators not to operate certain bus services

(1) A person must not operate, within or partly within the ACT, a regular route service unless the person is accredited under the regulations to operate regular route services.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

(2) A person must not operate, within or partly within the ACT, a tour and charter service unless the person is accredited under the regulations to operate tour and charter services.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

21 Pretending to be an accredited bus service operator

A person must not pretend to be accredited under the regulations to operate a bus service.

Maximum penalty: 30 penalty units.

22 Operators of regular route services to hold service contracts

(1) A person must not operate, within or partly within the ACT, a regular route service unless the person holds a service contract for the service.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

(2) However, if a regular route service is discontinued because of a variation or termination of a service contract, the road transport authority may make arrangements with an appropriately accredited person to operate a temporary regular route service to replace the discontinued service even though the person does not hold a service contract for the replacement service.

Division 2.5 Regulation of bus services

23 Regular route services—power to determine maximum fares

(1) The Minister may determine maximum fares, and ways of calculating maximum fares, payable by passengers on regular route services.

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Division 2.5	Regulation of bus services
Section 24	0

- (2) A determination is a disallowable instrument.
 - *Note* A disallowable instrument must be notified and presented to the Legislative Assembly, under the *Legislation Act 2001*.

24 Regulations about operation of bus services by accredited people

The regulations may make provision in relation to the operation of bus services by accredited bus service operators, including, for example—

- (a) the conduct of bus services, including, for example—
 - (i) the safety of passengers and the public; and
 - (ii) the qualifications, training and experience of bus drivers and other people providing services on behalf of accredited bus service operators; and
 - (iii) maximum driving times and minimum rest times of bus drivers; and
 - (iv) insurance; and
 - (v) the issue of tickets; and
 - (vi) customer complaints and inquiries; and
- (b) the preparation and publication of, and compliance with, timetables for regular route services; and
- (c) the obligations of drivers of public buses and other people providing services on behalf of accredited bus service operators; and
- (d) the requirements that public buses, and their equipment and fittings (internal and external), must comply with; and
- (e) the maintenance and cleaning of public buses; and
- (f) maintenance, parking and other facilities for public buses; and

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- (g) the making and keeping of records and their inspection; and
- (h) the auditing of records and systems; and
- (i) the provision of information and reports to the road transport authority.

25 Regulations about operation of public buses

The regulations may make provision in relation to the operation of public buses, including, for example—

- (a) the regulation or prohibition of the use of public buses on certain roads or road related areas; and
- (b) the picking-up and dropping-off of passengers and other matters relating to the transport of passengers; and
- (c) the records to be made and kept by drivers, how they are to be made and kept, and their inspection; and
- (d) the transport of passengers' luggage or other goods, and animals; and
- (e) the regulation or prohibition of the transportation of passengers standing in or on any part of a public bus; and
- (f) the maximum speed of public buses; and
- (g) the prohibition of anyone from soliciting for passengers or for a hiring; and
- (h) the design, equipment and fittings (internal or external) of public buses; and
- (i) the sections, terminal points and bus stops on bus routes; and
- (j) the regulation or prohibition of notices, signs and advertisements inside or on the outside of public buses.

Part 2	Bus services
Division 2.5	Regulation of bus services
Section 26	

26 Regulations about bus drivers

The regulations may make provision for or with respect to drivers of public buses, including, for example—

- (a) the powers, duties and conduct of drivers; and
- (b) how drivers must dress.

27 Regulations about conduct of passengers

The regulations may make provision for or with respect to the conduct of passengers on public buses, including, for example—

- (a) the regulation or prohibition of eating and drinking; and
- (b) the authority of public bus drivers, police officers and authorised people to direct people contravening a regulation to leave a bus and to remove them if they fail to leave.

Part 3 Taxi networks

Division 3.1 Basic concepts

28 Meaning of *taxi network*

A *taxi network* is an entity that provides taxi related services to affiliated accredited taxi service operators, including providing (directly or through another entity) a taxi booking service for the network.

29 Meaning of *taxi* booking service

A *taxi booking service* is a service provided by or for an accredited taxi network provider that—

- (a) accepts bookings for taxis from people; and
- (b) sends messages about bookings to taxi drivers by electromagnetic energy to equipment in taxis that can receive such messages.

Division 3.2 Accreditation of taxi network providers

30 Taxi network providers—purposes of accreditation

The purpose of accreditation under the regulations to operate a taxi network is to ensure that—

- (a) the accredited person has the financial capacity to meet the service standards for the network; and
- (b) the accredited person, and each person who is concerned with, or takes part in, the management of the network, are suitable people to operate the network; and

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- (c) the accredited person, and each person who is concerned with, or takes part in, the management of the network, have demonstrated the capacity to comply with the relevant regulations and, in particular, the regulations about—
 - (i) the operation of the network; and
 - (ii) the supervision and monitoring of affiliated accredited taxi service operators and drivers of taxis operated by affiliated accredited taxi service operators.

31 Taxi network providers—regulations about accreditation system

- (1) The regulations are to provide a system for the accreditation of people to operate taxi networks, including, for example—
 - (a) the kind or kinds of taxi services in relation to which an accredited person is entitled to provide taxi related services; and

Note For kinds of taxi services, see s 47 and s 48.

- (b) the conditions of an accreditation; and
- (c) matters relating to the giving, refusal or surrender of an accreditation; and
- (d) the action that may be taken in relation to an accredited person in circumstances prescribed under the regulations, including—
 - (i) the suspension or cancellation of an accreditation; and
 - (ii) the imposition of a condition on, or the amendment of a condition of, an accreditation; and
 - (iii) an order that an accredited person pay to the Territory an amount of not more than—
 - (A) for an individual—\$5 000; or
 - (B) for a corporation—\$25 000; and

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- (iv) the reprimanding of an accredited person.
- (2) The regulations may make provision in relation to the accreditation of people to operate taxi networks, including, for example—
 - (a) requirements about the suitability of the applicant and each person who will be concerned with, or take part in, the management of the network; and
 - (b) capacity to meet service standards; and
 - (c) financial viability.

Division 3.3 Entitlement to operate taxi networks

32 Entitlement to operate taxi networks

A person is entitled to operate a taxi network, within or partly within the ACT, for a particular kind of taxi service if the person is accredited under the regulations to operate a taxi network for that kind of taxi service.

33 Unaccredited persons not to operate taxi network

A person must not operate, within or partly within the ACT, a taxi network for a particular kind of taxi service unless the person is accredited under the regulations to operate a taxi network for that kind of taxi service.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

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Division 3.4	Regulation of bus services
Section 34	

34 Pretending to be an accredited taxi network provider

(1) A person must not pretend to be accredited under the regulations to operate a taxi network.

Maximum penalty: 30 penalty units.

(2) A person must not pretend to be accredited under the regulations to operate a taxi network for a particular kind of taxi service.

Maximum penalty: 30 penalty units.

Division 3.4 Regulation of taxi networks

35 Regulations about operation of taxi networks by accredited people

The regulations may make provision in relation to the operation of taxi networks by accredited people, including, for example—

- (a) the affiliation of accredited taxi service operators with networks; and
- (b) network rules for affiliated accredited taxi service operators and drivers of taxis operated by affiliated accredited taxi service operators; and
- (c) the specifications for equipment operated by or for networks for sending messages (including messages sent through a taxi booking service) to taxi drivers; and
- (d) the specifications for taximeters; and
- (e) the circumstances in which networks must accept applications for affiliation from, and maintain affiliation with, accredited taxi service operators; and

- (f) the operation of, and service standards for, taxi booking services operated by or for networks (including, for example, service standards about when a booking must be transferred to another taxi or a taxi booking service for another taxi network); and
- (g) the numbers and kinds of taxis, and the numbers of taxis with particular equipment (including, for example, baby capsules), operated by affiliated accredited taxi service operators that are to be available at particular times and places; and
- (h) directions that networks may give to affiliated accredited taxi service operators and drivers of taxis operated by affiliated accredited taxi service operators; and
- (i) the supervision and monitoring of affiliated accredited taxi service operators, and drivers of taxis operated by affiliated accredited taxi service operators, for compliance with network service standards and other requirements and the responsibilities of networks in relation to a failure to comply with the standards; and
- (j) the management of particular kinds of taxis (including, for example, taxis with wheelchair access) and taxi services; and
- (k) customer complaints and inquiries; and
- (1) the making and keeping of records and their inspection; and
- (m) the auditing of records and systems; and
- (n) the provision of information and reports to the road transport authority.

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Division 3.4	Regulation of bus services
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36 Regulations about operation of taxi networks

The regulations may make provision in relation to the obligations that an accredited taxi network provider must ensure that affiliated accredited taxi service operators, and drivers of taxis operated by affiliated accredited taxi service operators, must comply with, including, for example—

- (a) service standards for booked taxis; and
- (b) the safety of drivers and passengers (including, for example, particular kinds of security devices); and
- (c) the qualifications, training and experience of affiliated accredited taxi service operators, taxi drivers and other people providing services on behalf of networks; and
- (d) the operation of equipment for sending messages between a network (including messages sent through a taxi booking service) and taxi drivers; and
- (e) the maintenance and cleaning of taxis.

Part 4 Licensing of taxi vehicles

Division 4.1 Basic concepts

37 Meaning of *taxi licence*

A *taxi licence* is a licence issued under the regulations to use a vehicle as a taxi.

Note References to *taxi licence* include *restricted taxi licence* unless the contrary intention otherwise appears (see *Legislation Act 2001*, s 155).

38 Meaning of restricted taxi licence

A *restricted taxi licence* is a licence issued under the regulations to use a vehicle as a restricted taxi.

Division 4.2 Taxi licences

39 Maximum numbers of taxi licences

- (1) The Minister may, in writing, determine the number of taxi licences or restricted taxi licences.
- (2) A determination is a notifiable instrument.

Note A notifiable instrument must be notified under the *Legislation Act 2001*.

40 Issue of taxi licences

The road transport authority must not issue a taxi licence or a restricted taxi licence if the number of taxi licences or restricted taxi licences (as appropriate) would exceed the relevant number determined by the Minister.

Part 4	Bus services
Division 4.2	Regulation of bus services
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41 Transferability of taxi licences

- (1) If the holder of a taxi licence (other than a restricted taxi licence) asks the road transport authority to transfer the licence to someone else, the authority must transfer the licence to the person.
- (2) A restricted taxi licence is not transferable (including, for example, by hiring the licence to another person).

42 Use of vehicles as taxis

(1) A person must not use a vehicle as a taxi (other than a restricted taxi) unless the vehicle is licensed under the regulations as a taxi.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

(2) A person must not use a vehicle as a restricted taxi unless the vehicle is licensed under the regulations as a restricted taxi.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

- (3) However, this section does not apply to a person who is using—
 - (a) a vehicle that is licensed as a taxi under the law of another jurisdiction if the vehicle completes in the ACT a hiring begun in another jurisdiction; or
 - (b) a substitute vehicle as a licensed taxi in accordance with the regulations.

43 Pretending vehicles are licensed taxis

(1) A person must not pretend that a vehicle is licensed under the regulations as a taxi (other than a restricted taxi).

Maximum penalty: 30 penalty units.

(2) A person must not pretend that a vehicle is licensed under the regulations as a restricted taxi.

Maximum penalty: 30 penalty units.

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44 Regulations about taxi licences

- (1) The regulations are to provide a system for the licensing of taxis and restricted taxis, including, for example—
 - (a) matters relating to the giving, refusal or surrender of licences; and
 - (b) the term of restricted taxi licences; and
 - (c) the conditions of licences; and
 - (d) the circumstances in which a substitute vehicle may be used as a licensed taxi; and
 - (e) the action that may be taken in relation to licences in circumstances prescribed under the regulations, including—
 - (i) the suspension or cancellation of a licence; and
 - (ii) the imposition of a condition on, or the amendment of a condition of, a licence; and
 - (iii) an order that the holder of a licence pay to the Territory an amount of not more than—
 - (A) for an individual—\$5 000; or
 - (B) for a corporation—\$25 000; and
 - (iv) the reprimanding of the holder of a licence.

Example of conditions for restricted taxi licences—s (1) (c)

- 1 How the vehicle to which the restricted taxi licence relates must be equipped.
- 2 The kinds of restricted taxi services that may be operated using the vehicle.
- (2) The regulations may place different requirements on the person to whom a taxi licence (other than a restricted taxi licence) is issued and a person to whom the licence is hired.

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Part 5 Taxi services

Division 5.1 Basic concepts

45 Meaning of *taxi*

A *taxi* is a vehicle (other than a bus) that stands or plies for hire for the transport of passengers along a road or road related area.

Note References to *taxi* includes *restricted taxi* unless the contrary intention otherwise appears (see *Legislation Act 2001*, s 155).

46 Meaning of restricted taxi

A *restricted taxi* is a vehicle (other than a bus) that stands or plies for hire for the transport of passengers along a road or road related area and that is licensed under the regulations as a restricted taxi.

47 Meaning of taxi service

A *taxi service* is a public passenger service operated using 1 or more taxis (including restricted taxis).

48 Meaning of restricted taxi service

A *restricted taxi service* is a public passenger service operated using only 1 or more restricted taxis.

Examples of kinds of restricted taxi services

- 1 A service that must give priority to the transport of people with disabilities.
- 2 A service with no requirement to give priority to the transport of people with disabilities.

Division 5.2 Accreditation of taxi service operators

49 Taxi service operators—purposes of accreditation

The purpose of accreditation under the regulations to operate a taxi service is to ensure that—

- (a) the accredited person has the financial capacity to meet the service standards for the service; and
- (b) the accredited person, and each person who is concerned with, or takes part in, the management of the service, are suitable people to operate the service; and
- (c) the accredited person, and each person who is concerned with, or takes part in, the management of the service, have demonstrated the capacity to comply with the relevant regulations and, in particular, the regulations about—
 - (i) the safety of passengers and the public; and
 - (ii) the maintenance of taxis.

50 Taxi service operators—regulations about accreditation system

- (1) The regulations are to provide a system for the accreditation of people to operate taxi services, including, for example—
 - (a) the kinds of accreditations; and
 - (b) the kinds of taxis and taxi services that a person who holds a particular kind of accreditation is entitled to operate; and
 - (c) the conditions of accreditations; and
 - (d) matters relating to the giving, refusal or surrender of accreditations; and

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- (e) the action that may be taken in relation to an accredited person in circumstances prescribed under the regulations, including—
 - (i) the suspension or cancellation of an accreditation; and
 - (ii) the imposition of a condition on, or the amendment of a condition of, an accreditation; and
 - (iii) an order that an accredited person pay to the Territory an amount of not more than—
 - (A) for an individual—\$5 000; or
 - (B) for a corporation—\$25 000; and
 - (iv) the reprimanding of an accredited person.
- (2) The regulations may make provision in relation to the accreditation of people to operate taxi services, including, for example—
 - (a) requirements about the suitability of the applicant and each person who will be concerned with, or take part in, the management of the service; and
 - (b) capacity to meet service standards; and
 - (c) financial viability.
- (3) For subsection (1) (a), the regulations must provide for the accreditation of people to operate—
 - (a) a taxi service (other than a restricted taxi service); and
 - (b) a restricted taxi service.
 - *Note* For examples of kinds of restricted taxi services, see s 31C.

Division 5.3 Entitlement to operate taxi services

51 Entitlement to operate taxi services

A person is entitled to operate a particular kind of taxi service, within or partly within the ACT, if—

- (a) the person is accredited under the regulations to operate a taxi service of that kind; and
- (b) the vehicles used to operate the service are licensed under the regulations as taxis for that kind of taxi service; and
- (c) the person is affiliated with an accredited taxi network provider who is entitled to provide taxi related services to that kind of taxi service.

52 Unaccredited operators not to operate taxi services

(1) A person must not operate, within or partly within the ACT, a taxi service of a particular kind unless the person is accredited under the regulations to operate the taxi service of that kind.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

(2) However, subsection (1) does not apply to a person who is authorised to operate a taxi service under the law of another jurisdiction if a taxi operated by the person completes in the ACT a hiring begun in another jurisdiction.

53 Pretending to be an accredited taxi service operator

(1) A person must not pretend to be accredited under the regulations to operate a taxi service.

Maximum penalty: 30 penalty units.

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Division 5.4	Regulation of bus services
Section 54	

(2) A person must not pretend to be accredited under the regulations to operate a particular kind of taxi service.

Maximum penalty: 30 penalty units.

54 Taxi service operators to be affiliated with taxi network

An accredited taxi service operator must not operate a taxi service of a particular kind unless the person is affiliated with an accredited taxi network provider who is entitled to provide taxi related services to that kind of taxi service.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

55 Pretending to be affiliated with taxi network

A person must not pretend to be affiliated with an accredited taxi network provider.

Maximum penalty: 30 penalty units.

Division 5.4 Regulation of taxi services

56 Regulations about operation of taxi services by accredited people

The regulations may make provision in relation to the operation of taxi services by accredited taxi service operators, including, for example—

- (a) the specifications for, and operation of, equipment in taxis operated by accredited taxi service operators to receive messages from the accredited taxi network provider with which the operator is affiliated and for taximeters; and
- (b) compliance with the requirements of the accredited taxi network provider with which an accredited taxi service operator is affiliated; and

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- (c) the supervision and monitoring of drivers of taxis operated by an accredited taxi service operator for compliance with the service standards and other requirements of the operator's affiliated taxi network provider and the responsibilities of the operator in relation to a failure to comply with the standards; and
- (d) the safety of passengers (including, for example, particular kinds of security devices) and the public; and
- (e) the qualifications, training and experience of accredited taxi service operators and taxi drivers (including, for example, in relation to particular kinds of taxi services); and
- (f) maximum driving times and minimum rest times of taxi drivers; and
- (g) insurance; and
- (h) customer complaints and inquiries; and

Note For the vehicle age limitations on the registration of a motor vehicle as a taxi, see the *Road Transport (Vehicle Registration) Regulations 2000*, reg 32.

- (i) lost property; and
- (j) the obligations of accredited taxi network providers and taxi drivers and other people providing services to or on behalf of accredited taxi service operators; and
- (k) the operation of particular kinds of taxis (including, for example, taxis with wheelchair access) and taxi services; and
- (1) the requirements that taxis, and their equipment and fittings (internal and external) (including, for example, baby capsules), must comply with; and
- (m) the maintenance and cleaning of taxis; and
- (n) the making and keeping of records and their inspection; and

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- (o) the auditing of records and systems; and
- (p) the provision of information and reports to the road transport authority.

57 Regulations about operation of taxis

The regulations may make provision in relation to the operation of taxis, including, for example—

- (a) the solicitation of passengers or hirings; and
- (b) the hiring of vehicles and the payment of fares; and
- (c) the picking-up and dropping-off of passengers and other matters relating to the transport of passengers; and
- (d) the transport of passengers' luggage or other goods, and animals; and
- (e) the regulation or prohibition of the use of vehicles on certain roads or road related areas; and
- (f) the maximum speed of a vehicle; and
- (g) the design, equipment and fittings (internal or external) of vehicles; and
- (h) the regulation or prohibition of notices, signs and advertisements inside or on the outside of vehicles; and
- (i) the records to be made and kept by drivers, how they are to be made and kept, and their inspection; and
- (j) the provision, use and operation of taxi zones.

58 Regulations about taxi drivers

The regulations may make provision in relation to taxi drivers, including, for example—

(a) the powers, duties and conduct of taxi drivers; and

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- (b) the training of drivers; and
- (c) how taxi drivers must dress.
- *Note* For the licensing of people to drive taxis, see the *Road Transport* (*Driver Licensing*) *Regulations 2000*.

59 Regulations about conduct of taxi passengers

The regulations may make provision in relation to the conduct of passengers being carried by taxis, including, for example—

- (a) the regulation or prohibition of eating and drinking; and
- (b) the authority of taxi drivers, police officers and authorised people to direct people contravening a regulation to leave a taxi and to remove them if they fail to leave.

60 Power to determine maximum taxi fares

- (1) The Minister may, in writing, determine maximum fares, and ways of calculating maximum fares, relating to hiring or using a taxi.
- (2) A determination is a disallowable instrument.
 - *Note* A disallowable instrument must be notified, and presented to the Legislative Assembly, under the *Legislation Act 2001*.
- (3) This section does not require the Minister to determine maximum fares for hiring or using a taxi.
 - *Note* The Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission may give price directions for regulated industries, see the *Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission Act 1997*, s 20.
- (4) In this section:

fare includes a charge relating to hiring or using a taxi.

Part 6 Miscellaneous

Section 61

Part 6 Miscellaneous

61 Regulation-making power

- (1) The Executive may make regulations for this Act.
 - *Note* Regulations must be notified and presented to the Legislative Assembly, under the *Legislation Act 2001*.
- (2) The regulations may create offences for contraventions of the regulations and prescribe maximum penalties of not more than 20 penalty units for offences against the regulations.

62 Regulations may apply certain laws and instruments

The regulations may apply a law of another jurisdiction or any other instrument, as in force from time to time.

- *Note 1* The text of an applied, adopted or incorporated law or instrument, whether applied as in force from time to time or as at a particular time, is taken to be a notifiable instrument if the operation of the *Legislation Act 2001*, s 47 (5) or (6) is not disapplied (see s 47 (7)).
- Note 2 A notifiable instrument must be notified under the Legislation Act 2001.

63 Regulations about enforcement

The regulations may make provision in relation to the powers and duties of police officers and authorised officers in relation to public passenger services, including, for example, in relation to public passenger vehicles, drivers of public passenger vehicles and passengers.

64 Minister may exempt vehicles and people from Act

- (1) The Minister may exempt a vehicle or person from this Act (or a stated provision of this Act).
- (2) An exemption is a disallowable instrument.
 - *Note* A disallowable instrument must be notified, and presented to the Legislative Assembly, under the *Legislation Act 2001*.

65 Regulations may exempt vehicles and people from Act

- (1) The regulations may—
 - (a) exempt a vehicle or person, or a kind of vehicle or person, prescribed under the regulations from this Act (or a stated provision of this Act); or
 - (b) authorise the road transport authority to exempt a vehicle or person, or a kind of vehicle or person, prescribed under the regulations from this Act (or a stated provision of this Act).
- (2) An exemption given under a regulation mentioned in subsection (1) may be conditional.
- (3) The regulations may provide for the road transport authority to—
 - (a) suspend the operation of a regulation mentioned in subsection (1) (a) in the way and circumstances prescribed under the regulations; or
 - (b) suspend the operation of an exemption given by the authority to a vehicle or person in the way and circumstances prescribed under the regulations.

Part 7Transitional provisionsDivision 7.1GeneralSection 66

Part 7 Transitional provisions

Division 7.1 General

66 Definitions for pt 7

In this part:

bus operator's licence—see the General Act, section 138 (1).

bus service licence—see the General Act, section 142 (1).

commencement means the commencement of this part.

General Act means the Road Transport (General) Act 1999.

Motor Omnibus Act means the Motor Omnibus Services Act 1955.

motor omnibus service means a motor omnibus service conducted under the Motor Omnibus Act.

restricted taxi operator's licence—see the General Act, section 108 (1).

taxi operator's licence—see the General Act, section 106 (1).

67 Transitional regulations

- (1) The regulations may prescribe savings or transitional matters necessary or convenient to be prescribed because of the enactment of this Act.
- (2) Without limiting the scope of subsection (1), the regulations may prescribe matters necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to the provisions of this Act.

Part 7	Transitional provisions	
Division 7.6	Small buses	
Section 68		

- (3) Regulations made for this section must not be taken to be inconsistent with—
 - (a) this Act as far as they can operate concurrently with this Act; or
 - (b) any other provision of the road transport legislation as far as they can operate concurrently with the provision.
- (4) This section is additional to, and does not limit, section 68.

68 Modification of pt 7's operation

The regulations may modify the operation of this part to make provision with respect to any matter that is not, or not adequately, dealt with in this part.

69 Expiry of div 7.1

This division expires on 1 June 2003.

Division 7.6 Small buses

83 Existing small buses

- (1) This section applies to a person who, immediately before the commencement, operated a registered vehicle built mainly to carry people that seated up to 9 adults (including the driver) and had a distinguishing registration number with the letters 'MO' followed by 1 to 3 numerals.
- (2) The person is taken, after the commencement, to be accredited under the regulations to operate a tour and charter service.
- (3) The accreditation the person is taken to hold under subsection (2) may be varied or ended by the road transport authority in accordance with the regulations.

Part 7	Transitional provisions
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(4) If the accreditation the person is taken to hold under subsection (2) has not been ended in accordance with the regulations, the accreditation expires 18 months after it commences.

84 Expiry of div 7.6

This division expires on 1 June 2003.

Division 7.7 Taxis

85 Existing approved taxi networks

- (1) This section applies to a person who, immediately before the commencement, held an authority to operate a taxi network under the *Road Transport (Taxi Services) Regulations 2000*, regulation 57 (Taxi network authorities).
- (2) The person is taken, after the commencement, to be accredited under the regulations to operate a taxi network.
- (3) The accreditation the person is taken to hold under subsection (2) may be varied or ended by the road transport authority in accordance with the regulations.
- (4) If the accreditation the person is taken to hold under subsection (2) has not been ended in accordance with the regulations, the accreditation expires 1 year after this section commences.

86 Existing taxi licences and restricted taxi licences

- (1) This section applies to a person who, immediately before the commencement, was the holder of—
 - (a) a taxi operator's licence; or
 - (b) a restricted taxi operator's licence.
- (2) The person is taken, after the commencement—

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Small buses	Division 7.7
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- (a) for a person mentioned in subsection (1) (a)—to be the holder of a taxi licence (other than a restricted taxi licence) issued under this Act; or
- (b) for a person mentioned in subsection (1) (b)—to be the holder of a restricted taxi licence issued under this Act.
- (3) If the licence held by the person was, immediately before the commencement, subject to conditions, the licence the person is taken to hold under subsection (2) is taken to be subject to the conditions.
- (4) The period of a restricted taxi operator's licence that is taken to be a restricted taxi licence issued under this Act is taken to be the unexpired period of the licence before the commencement.

87 Interim accreditation of existing taxi operators

- (1) This section applies to a person who, immediately before the commencement—
 - (a) operated a taxi service (other than a restricted taxi service) within the meaning of this Act; or
 - (b) was the holder of a restricted taxi operator's licence.
- (2) The person is taken, after the commencement—
 - (a) for a person mentioned in subsection (1) (a)—to be accredited under the regulations to operate a taxi service; or
 - (b) for a person mentioned in subsection (1) (b)—to be accredited under the regulations to operate a restricted taxi service.
- (3) The accreditation the person is taken to hold under subsection (2) may be varied or ended by the road transport authority in accordance with the regulations.
- (4) If the accreditation the person is taken to hold under subsection (2) has not been ended in accordance with the

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regulations, the accreditation expires 1 year after this section commences.

88 Determination about maximum number of taxi licences

- (1) This section applies to a determination in force under the General Act, section 106 (4) immediately before the commencement (including a determination that was taken under the General Act, section 253 to be a determination under section 106 (4)).
- (2) The determination is taken, after the commencement, to be a determination under section 39 (Maximum numbers of taxi licences) of the maximum number of taxi licences (other than restricted taxi licences).

89 Determination about maximum number of restricted taxi licences

- (1) This section applies to a determination in force under the General Act, section 107 immediately before the commencement (including a determination that was taken under the General Act, section 254 to be a determination under section 107).
- (2) The determination is taken, after the commencement, to be a determination under section 39 (Maximum numbers of taxi licences) of the maximum number of restricted taxi licences.

90 Application to transfer taxi licence

An application under the General Act, section 109 (1) in relation to a taxi licence that had not been finally dealt with immediately before the commencement is taken, after the commencement, to be an application made to the road transport authority under section 41 (1) (Transferability of taxi licences).

91 Determination about maximum taxi fares

A determination in force under the General Act, section 115 immediately before the commencement is taken, after the

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commencement, to be a determination under section 60(1) (Power to determine maximum taxi fares).

92 Expiry of div 7.7

This division expires on 2 March 2003.

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Dictionary

(see s 4)

- *Note 1* The *Legislation Act 2001* contains definitions and other provisions relevant to this Act.
- *Note 2* In particular, the *Legislation Act 2001*, dict, pt 1, defines the following terms:
 - ACT
 - exercise
 - function
 - the Territory.

accredited, in relation to a kind of public passenger service, means accredited under the regulations to operate that kind of public passenger service.

accredited taxi network provider means accredited under the regulations to operate a taxi network.

accredited taxi service operator means accredited under the regulations to operate a taxi service.

affiliated, in relation to an accredited taxi service operator, means affiliated with an accredited taxi network provider.

another jurisdiction means a jurisdiction other than the ACT.

authority—see road transport authority.

bus means a motor vehicle built mainly to carry people that seats over 9 adults (including the driver).

bus service—see section 11 (Meaning of bus service).

fare means the amount payable by passengers for transport, or for the transport of passengers' luggage or other goods, on public passenger vehicles.

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holder means—

- (a) of a service contract—the person who (apart from the road transport authority) is a party to the contract; or
- (b) of a taxi licence—the person to whom the licence was issued.

jurisdiction means a State, the Commonwealth or an internal Territory, including the ACT.

licence, in relation to a taxi, means a licence issued under the regulations to use a vehicle as a taxi.

long-distance service—see section 14 (What is a *long-distance service*?).

motor vehicle means a vehicle built to be propelled by a motor that forms part of the vehicle.

public bus means a bus used to provide a bus service.

public passenger service—see section 10 (What is a *public passenger service*?).

public passenger vehicle means a bus or taxi.

public vehicle licence—see the *Road Transport (Driver Licensing) Act 1999*, dictionary.

regular route service—see section 12 (What is a *regular route service*?).

restricted taxi-see section 46 (Meaning of restricted taxi).

restricted taxi licence—see section 38 (Meaning of *restricted taxi licence*).

restricted taxi service—see section 48 (Meaning of *restricted taxi service*).

Dictionary

road means an area that is open to or used by the public and is developed for, or has as 1 of its main uses, the driving or riding of motor vehicles, but does not include an area that would otherwise be a road so far as a declaration under the *Road Transport (General) Act 1999*, section 12 (Power to include or exclude areas in road transport legislation) declares that this Act does not apply to the area.

road related area means-

- (a) an area that divides a road; or
- (b) a footpath or nature strip adjacent to a road; or
- (c) an area that is open to the public and is designated for use by cyclists or animals; or
- (d) an area that is not a road and that is open to or used by the public for driving, riding or parking vehicles; or
- (e) a shoulder of a road; or
- (f) any other area that is open to or used by the public so far as a declaration under the *Road Transport (General) Act 1999*, section 12 (Power to include or exclude areas in road transport legislation) declares that this Act applies to the area;

but does not include an area that would otherwise be a road related area so far as a declaration under that section declares that this Act does not apply to the area.

road transport authority (or *authority*) means the Australian Capital Territory Road Transport Authority.

Note The chief executive of the department responsible for the *Road Transport (General) Act 1999* is the road transport authority (see *Road Transport (General) Act 1999*, s 16).

service contract—see section 17 (Service contracts).

taxi—see section 45 (Meaning of *taxi*).

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taxi booking service—see section 29 (Meaning of *taxi booking service*).

taxi driver means the person driving a taxi if the person holds a public vehicle licence authorising the person to drive the taxi for hire or reward.

taxi licence—see section 37 (Meaning of taxi licence).

taxi network—see section 28 (Meaning of taxi network).

taxi service—see section 47 (Meaning of taxi service).

taxi zone—see the Australian Road Rules, rule 182.

tour and charter service—see section 13 (What is a tour and charter service?).

vehicle means-

- (a) any description of vehicle on wheels, other than a vehicle used on railways or tramways; or
- (b) any other vehicle prescribed under the regulations;

and includes anything else that, under the regulations, is to be treated as a vehicle.

1 About the endnotes

Endnotes

1 About the endnotes

Amending and modifying laws are annotated in the legislation history and the amendment history. Current modifications are not included in the republished law but are set out in the endnotes.

Not all editorial amendments made under the *Legislation Act 2001*, part 11.3 are annotated in the amendment history. Full details of any amendments can be obtained from the Parliamentary Counsel's Office.

Uncommenced amending laws and expiries are listed in the legislation history and the amendment history. These details are underlined. Uncommenced provisions and amendments are not included in the republished law but are set out in the last endnote.

If all the provisions of the law have been renumbered, a table of renumbered provisions gives details of previous and current numbering.

The endnotes also include a table of earlier republications.

If the republished law includes penalties, current information about penalty unit values appears on the republication inside front cover.

2 Abbreviation key

am = amended amdt = amendment ch = chapter cl = clause def = definition dict = dictionary disallowed = disallowed by the Legislative Assembly div = division exp = expires/expired Gaz = Gazette hdg = heading IA = Interpretation Act 1967 ins = inserted/added LA = Legislation Act 2001 LR = legislation register	ord = ordinance orig = original p = page par = paragraph pres = present prev = previous (prev) = previously prov = provision pt = part r = rule/subrule reg = regulation/subregulation renum = renumbered reloc = relocated R[X] = Republication No RI = reissue s = section/subsection
•	
LRA = Legislation (Republication) Act 1996	sch = schedule
mod = modified / modification	sdiv = subdivision
No = number	sub = substituted
num = numbered	SL = Subordinate Law
o = order	<u>underlining</u> = whole or part not commenced
om = omitted/repealed	or to be expired

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3 Legislation history

Road Transport (Public Passenger Services) Act 2001 No 62

notified 10 September 2001 (Gaz 2001 No S66)

s 1, s 2 commenced 10 September 2001 (IA s 10B)

remainder commenced 1 December 2001 (s 2 and CN 2001 No 2)

as amended by

Road Transport (Public Passenger Services) Amendment Act 2001 No 94

notified LR 27 September 2001 s 1, s 2 commenced 27 September 2001 (LA s 75) remainder commenced 1 March 2002 (s 2 and CN 2002 No 2)

Statute Law Amendment Act 2002 No 30 pt 3.70

notified LR 16 September 2002

s 1, s 2 taken to have commenced 19 May 1997 (LA s 75 (2)) pt 3.70 commenced 17 September 2002 (s 2 (1))

4 Amendment history

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Objects s 2 hdg s 2	bracketed note exp 30 June 2002 (s 4 (3)) orig s 2 om R1 LA (s 89 (4)) (prev s 3) sub 2001 No 94 s 4 renum R1 LA (see 2001 No 94 s 17)	
Dictionary s 3	(prev s 4) renum R1 LA (see 2001 No 94 s 17)	
Notes s 4	(prev s 5) sub 2001 No 94 s 5 renum R1 LA (see 2001 No 94 s 17) ss (2), (3) exp 30 June 2002 (s 4 (3))	
Functions of ro s 5	ad transport authority (prev s 6) sub 2001 No 94 s 5 renum R1 LA (see 2001 No 94 s 17)	
Registers of ac s 6	credited people and licences (prev s 7) sub 2001 No 94 s 5 renum R1 LA (see 2001 No 94 s 17)	
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2001

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Disclosur s 7	e of information in registers (prev s 8) sub 2001 No 94 s 5 renum R1 LA (see 2001 No 94 s 17)	
Trade Pra s 8	ctices Act authorisation (prev s 9) renum R1 LA (see 2001 No 94 s 17)	
Combinat s 9	ions of accreditations and licences (prev s 9A) ins 2001 No 94 s 6 renum R1 LA (see 2001 No 94 s 17)	
Meaning c s 11 hdg	f bus service bracketed note exp 30 June 2002 (s 4 (3))	
What is a s 12 hdg	regular route service? bracketed note exp 30 June 2002 (s 4 (3))	
What is a s 14 hdg	<i>long-distance service?</i> bracketed note exp 30 June 2002 (s 4 (3))	
Bus opera s 15 hdg	tors—purposes of accreditation bracketed note exp 30 June 2002 (s 4 (3))	
Regulatio s 16	ns about accreditation system am 2002 No 30 amdt 3.748	
Service co s 17 hdg	bntracts bracketed note exp 30 June 2002 (s 4 (3))	
Unaccred i s 20 hdg	ted operators not to operate certain bus services bracketed note exp 30 June 2002 (s 4 (3))	
Pretendin s 21	g to be an accredited bus service operator sub 2002 No 30 amdt 3.749	
Operators s 22 hdg	of regular route services to hold service contracts bracketed note exp 30 June 2002 (s 4 (3))	
Taxi netw o	orks sub 2001 No 94 s 8	
Basic con div 3.1 hdg	•	
Meaning c s 28 hdg s 28	of <i>taxi network</i> bracketed note exp 30 June 2002 (s 4 (3)) orig s 28 om 2001 No 94 s 7 (prev s 29) sub 2001 No 94 s 8 renum R1 LA (see 2001 No 94 s 17)	
Meaning c s 29 hdg s 29	of <i>taxi booking service</i> bracketed note exp 30 June 2002 (s 4 (3)) (prev s 29A) ins 2001 No 94 s 8 renum R1 LA (see 2001 No 94 s 17)	
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Amendment history	
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	Accreditation of div 3.2 hdg	taxi network providers ins 2001 No 94 s 8
	Taxi network pro s 30 hdg s 30	viders—purposes of accreditation bracketed note exp 30 June 2002 (s 4 (3)) (prev s 29B) ins 2001 No 94 s 8 renum R1 LA (see 2001 No 94 s 17)
	Taxi network pro s 31 hdg s 31	viders—regulations about accreditation system bracketed note exp 30 June 2002 (s 4 (3)) (prev s 29C) ins 2001 No 94 s 8 renum R1 LA (see 2001 No 94 s 17)
	Entitlement to op div 3.3 hdg	perate taxi networks ins 2001 No 94 s 8
	Entitlement to op s 32	perate taxi networks (prev s 29D) ins 2001 No 94 s 8 renum R1 LA (see 2001 No 94 s 17)
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	Meaning of restrues a solution of the solution	icted taxi licence bracketed note exp 30 June 2002 (s 4 (3)) (prev s 30A) ins 2001 No 94 s 8 renum R1 LA (see 2001 No 94 s 17)	
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	Issue of taxi licer s 40 hdg s 40	nces bracketed note exp 30 June 2002 (s 4 (3)) (prev s 30C) ins 2001 No 94 s 8 renum R1 LA (see 2001 No 94 s 17)	
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Some earlier republications were not numbered. The number in column 1 refers to the publication order.

Since 12 September 2001 every authorised republication has been published in electronic pdf format on the ACT legislation register. A selection of authorised republications have also been published in printed format. These republications are marked with an asterisk (*) in column 1. Except for the footer, electronic and printed versions of an authorised republication are identical.

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