



Australian Capital Territory

# Juries (Peremptory Challenges) Amendment Act 2026

**A2026-9**

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An Act to amend the *Juries Act 1967*

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The Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory enacts as follows:

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J2025-1233

Authorised by the ACT Parliamentary Counsel—also accessible at [www.legislation.act.gov.au](http://www.legislation.act.gov.au)

**1 Name of Act**

This Act is the *Juries (Peremptory Challenges) Amendment Act 2026*.

**2 Commencement**

This Act commences on the day after its notification day.

*Note* The naming and commencement provisions automatically commence on the notification day (see [Legislation Act](#), s 75 (1)).

**3 Legislation amended**

This Act amends the *Juries Act 1967*.

**4 Expanded juries in some criminal trials  
Section 31A (3)**

*omit*

8 peremptory challenges

*substitute*

4 peremptory challenges

**5 Section 31A (3) (a) to (c)**

*substitute*

- (a) if the judge directs that 13 or 14 jurors be empanelled—references to 5 peremptory challenges; or
- (b) if the judge directs that 15 jurors be empanelled—references to 6 peremptory challenges; or
- (c) if the judge directs that 16 jurors be empanelled—references to 7 peremptory challenges.

**6 Challenges at criminal trials  
Section 34 (1) (a) and (2) (a)**

*omit*

8 peremptory challenges

*substitute*

4 peremptory challenges

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**Endnotes**

**1 Presentation speech**

Presentation speech made in the Legislative Assembly on 3 December 2025.

**2 Notification**

Notified under the [Legislation Act](#) on 15 May 2026.

**3 Republications of amended laws**

For the latest republication of amended laws, see [www.legislation.act.gov.au](http://www.legislation.act.gov.au).

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I certify that the above is a true copy of the Juries (Peremptory Challenges) Amendment Bill 2026, which originated in the Legislative Assembly as the Juries (Peremptory Challenges) Amendment Bill 2025 and was passed by the Assembly on 6 May 2026.

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

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