Australian Capital Territory

**Plastic Reduction (Single-use Plastic Products—Special Circumstances) Exemption 2022 (No 1)**

**Disallowable instrument DI2022-68**

made under the

**Plastic Reduction Act 2021, section 17 (****Minister may exempt person or plastic product)**

**1 Name of instrument**

This instrument is the *Plastic Reduction (Single-use Plastic Products—Special Circumstances) Exemption 2022 (No 1)*.

**2 Commencement**

This instrument commences on 1 July 2022.

**3 Exemption—single-use plastic drinking straws supplied on request to individuals**

(1) The Act, part 3 (Supplying prohibited plastic products) does not apply to a person (the ***straw supplier***)—

(a) who, on request from an individual, supplies the individual with a single-use plastic drinking straw; or

(b) who supplies a single-use plastic drinking straw to the straw supplier.

*Note* This exemption is intended to allow the supply of a prohibited straw to a person who, because of a disability or healthcare need, has requested the straw.

(2) The exemption in subsection (1) does not allow single-use plastic drinking straws to be displayed in the straw supplier’s premises.

*Note* The prohibition on supply of a plastic product under the Act also includes displaying the product (see Act, s 9 (2)).

**4 Exemption—single-use plastic drinking straws supplied by healthcare entity**

(1) The Act, part 3 (Supplying prohibited plastic products) does not apply to a person—

(a) employed or engaged (for reward or otherwise) by a healthcare entity in relation to the supply of single-use plastic drinking straws; or

(b) who supplies single-use plastic drinking straws to a healthcare entity.

(2) In this section:

***healthcare entity*** means an entity that provides care or products to people with disability or healthcare needs and includes the following:

(a) a dental clinic;

(b) an aged or disability care facility;

(c) a medical clinic;

(d) a pharmacy.

**5 Exemption—cotton buds with plastic sticks supplied for scientific etc use**

(1) The Act, part 3 (Supplying prohibited plastic products) does not apply to a person who supplies a prohibited cotton bud to an entity that uses them for scientific, forensic or medical purposes which would be compromised by the use of alternative products.

(2) In this section:

 ***prohibited cotton bud*** means a cotton bud with a single-use plastic stick or stem.

**6 Exemption considerations**

In accordance with the Act, section 17 (3), I am satisfied that—

(a) it is not practicable or in the public interest for a person mentioned in sections 3, 4 and 5 to comply with the Act, part 3; and

(b) noncompliance with the Act, part 3 will not have any significant adverse effect on public health, property or the environment.

Chris Steel MLA

Minister for Transport and City Services

24 May 2022