

**AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**NURSES ACT 1988**

**APPOINTMENTS TO THE NURSES BOARD OF THE  
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

**INSTRUMENT NO. s 145, 146, 147, 148 & 149**

The *Nurses Act 1988* (the Act) provides for the registration and enrolment of nurses, the supervision of nursing education and standards, and for related purposes.

Section 6 of the Act establishes the Board. Section 7 of the Act provides for the constitution of the Board. Paragraph 7(1)(a) of the *Nurses Act 1988* (the Act) requires that the chairperson and 4 other members of whom not more than 2 may be enrolled nurses, be appointed in accordance with the *Health Professions Boards (Procedures) Act 1981*.

Paragraph 7(1)(b) provides for 4 members to be elected in accordance with the *Health Professions Boards (Elections) Act 1980*. Subsection 7(2) of the Act provides that a person is not eligible for appointment as a member unless the person is a registered or enrolled nurse; and the person was at all times during the immediately preceding 3 years entitled under the law of a State or Territory, to practise nursing in that State or Territory.

Subsection 8(1) of the Act provides that a person is not eligible for appointment as a Chairperson unless the person is a registered nurse. Subsection 8(2) specifies that the Chairperson shall be the executive officer of the Board.

The positions of chairperson and four appointed members on the Nurses Board of the ACT became vacant on 29 April 1996.

Mr Christopher Denis Kewley, currently employed as the Director of Nursing, Mental Health Services and Assistant Director of Nursing, Woden Valley Hospital and Associated Regional Services was appointed chairperson.

Ms Meg Patricia Skegg Director of Nursing from John James Memorial Hospital, Ms Margaret Proctor Senior Lecturer in Nursing at the University of Canberra and Susan Killion Assistant Director of Nursing at Calvary Hospital were appointed as members to the Board.

Two nominees were also submitted by the Australian Nursing Federation (ANF) as a result of a Ministerial agreement to have one of its nominees appointed to the Board. Ms Parke is employed as a Level 3 Nurse, Clinical Nurse Consultant in the Outpatients Department at Woden Valley Hospital. She met all the requirements for appointment.

Appointments to the Board are for a period of three years commencing 28 June 1996 to and including 27 June 1999.