

**1999**

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

**MOTOR TRAFFIC ACT 1936**

**MOTOR TRAFFIC REGULATIONS AMENDMENT**

**REGULATION NO. 16 OF 1999**

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

**Circulated by the Authority of Minister for Urban Services  
Brendan Smyth MLA**

## Outline

Paragraph 218 (ag) of the *Motor Traffic Act 1936* (“the Motor Traffic Act”) provides for the Executive to make regulations exempting motor vehicles of a specified class from the operation of any or all of the provisions of the Motor Traffic Act.

Section 112A of the Motor Traffic Act provides for the rules to be observed by the drivers of motor vehicles at traffic lights. Section 112B of the Act specifies the meanings of the various traffic light indications.

Section 115C of the Act prohibits vehicles other than local services motor omnibuses from using public transport routes (“bus lanes”). Paragraph 116 (1) (b) prohibits vehicles other than local services motor omnibuses crossing a roadmarking consisting of an unbroken linemarking that separates a bus lane from the carriageway of a public street.

A new **Part IVA —Taxis Using Public Transport Routes** was inserted into the *Motor Traffic Regulations 1934* (the Motor Traffic Regulations) by the *Motor Traffic Regulations (Amendment)*, (Subordinate Law No 27 of 1998). The regulations inserted by these amending regulations (regulations 26A and 26B of the Motor Traffic Regulations) exempt taxis from the operation of those provisions of sections 112A and 112B, and subsections 115C (1) and 116 (1) of the Motor Traffic Act, that would otherwise prohibit taxis from entering, leaving or driving in public transport routes (“bus lanes”).

The *Motor Traffic Regulations Amendment* insert a definition for the purposes of Part IVA of the Motor Traffic Regulations. The new definition inserted by the amending regulations provides that any reference to a taxi in Part IVA shall include a private hire car.

The effect of the amending regulations is to exempt private hire cars, in exactly the same way as taxis, from the operation of those provisions of sections 112A and 112B, and subsections 115C (1) and 116 (1) of the Motor Traffic Act, that would otherwise prohibit them from entering, leaving or driving in bus lanes.

No other provisions of the Motor Traffic Act or the Motor Traffic Regulations are affected by the amending regulations.

## Financial considerations

The amending regulations have no financial implications.

## Details

**Regulation 1** provides for the amending Regulations to commence upon gazettal, apart from regulation 3 which takes effect on 6 September 1999.

**Regulation 2** specifies that the regulations that are amended are the *Motor Traffic Regulations 1934*.

**Regulation 3** inserts a new regulation 26AA before regulation 26A of the *Motor Traffic Regulations 1934*. This regulation provides that any reference to a taxi in Part IVA of the *Motor Traffic Regulations 1934* includes a private hire car.