LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

CHILDREN'S' SERVICES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1998

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Circulated by authority of Paul Osborne MLA Independent

Authorised by the ACT Parliamentary Counsel-also accessible at www.legislation.act.gov.au

OUTLINE

The purpose of this Bill is to provide for a designated children's magistrate for the Children's Court As there is no requirement in this legislation to employ an additional magistrate for this purpose, the Bill has no financial implications.

CLAUSE NOTES

Clauses 1, 2 and 3 are formal requirements. They refer to the short title of the Bill; specify that the Bill will commence upon being notified in the *Gazette*, and identify the title of the Act being amended.

Clause 4 highlights the introduction of new section 20A when referring to the Children's' Court.

Clause 5 refers to new section 20A which requires to Chief Magistrate to designate one magistrate to be known as the Children's' Court Magistrate. The Children's' Court Magistrate will then have jurisdiction over all Children's Court proceedings. There is no requirement in this section which would restrict this magistrate to Children's Court proceedings.

Clause 6 refers to any possible savings made by this Act.