

1995

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

Weapons Act 1991

Weapons Regulations (Amendment)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Circulated by authority of

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EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

WEAPONS REGULATIONS (AMENDMENT) NO. OF 1995

Section 102 of the *Weapons Act 1991* provides that the Executive may make Regulations for the purposes of the Act. Section 20(2) provides that the regulations may exempt specified persons or weapons from the requirements of the Act and may specify the circumstances in which that exemption applies.

Schedule 3 of the *Weapons Act 1991* includes as prohibited weapons hunting slings, sling shots and catapults which have a brace that rests on the arm or another part of a body to support the wrist. The *Weapons Regulations (Amendment)* provides that certain research bodies, namely the Australian National University and the University of Canberra, which need to use such catapults for scientific research are exempted from the provisions of the Act, subject to certain restrictions. Those restrictions are that the catapult is manufactured, acquired or used for the purpose of animal or plant research; that the device is kept in accordance with the Registrar of Weapons' guidelines as to storage of dangerous weapons; and that the device is inscribed with a serial number allocated by the Registrar of Weapons.

This regulation is intended as an interim measure to authorise the possession and use of these devices under the current legislative regime. It is proposed that amendments to the *Weapons Act 1991* will be introduced in 1995 to license such devices as dangerous weapons.

The regulations have no financial implications. They will commence on gazettal.