

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY  
SELF-GOVERNMENT (CITATION OF LAWS) ORDINANCE 1989

ORDINANCE NO. 21 OF 1989

The purpose of the Self-Government (Citation of Laws) Ordinance 1989 (the Ordinance) is to amend or modify A.C.T. laws generally to provide for the citation of A.C.T. laws and Commonwealth laws after self-government.

The Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988 (the Self Government Act) provides for a Legislative Assembly empowered to make laws for the peace, order and good government of the Territory. Section 34 of the Self Government Act provides that ACT Ordinances, certain specified Commonwealth Acts (converted Commonwealth Acts) and Imperial Acts and NSW Acts in force in the ACT are to be taken to be enactments of the Legislative Assembly. A number of these laws are reserved under Commonwealth control, but the Self Government Act provides for some of the reserved laws to become enactments of the ACT Legislative Assembly at a later date.

The details of the Self-Government (Citation of Laws) Ordinance 1989 are contained in the Attachment.

ISSUED BY THE AUTHORITY OF  
THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR  
THE ARTS AND TERRITORIES

**SELF-GOVERNMENT (CITATION OF LAWS) ORDINANCE 1989**

Section 1 provides for the citation of the Ordinance, both before and after self-government day.

Section 2 provides for the commencement of the Ordinance. Subsection (1) provides that sections 1 and 2 of the Ordinance commence on gazettal. Subsection (2) provides that, subject to certain other provisions of the Ordinance (which delay the operation of certain amendments until relevant laws become enactments) the remaining provisions of the Ordinance commence on self-government day.

Section 3 defines certain words and phrases commonly used in the Ordinance.

Section 4 is an interpretative provision providing that, in the Ordinance, a reference to an Ordinance or a Commonwealth Act referred to in an enactment, subordinate law, reserved law or converted Commonwealth Act shall be read as a reference to an Ordinance or a Commonwealth Act that is in force.

Section 5 amends enactments generally to provide for the citation of A.C.T. primary laws after self-government and, as a consequence, to clarify references in those laws to Commonwealth Acts.

Section 6 makes similar amendments of A.C.T. subordinate laws.

Section 7 makes similar amendments of reserved Ordinances, State Acts and Imperial Acts.

Section 8 makes similar modifications of converted Commonwealth Acts.

Section 9 provides that existing general references to Acts in A.C.T. laws shall be read as references to Commonwealth Acts.

Section 10 recognises that some citation alterations will be effected in Ordinances made preparatory to self-government and avoids the risk of a double amendment.