

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

ADOPTION OF CHILDREN ORDINANCE 1974

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The proposed Adoption of Children Ordinance 1974 will operate to validate maternal consents to adoption made in New South Wales.

At present it is unclear whether maternal consents made in New South Wales, which satisfy the laws of that State, can be accepted in the Australian Capital Territory where such consents are given earlier than would be permissible under the laws of the Territory.

The proposed Ordinance will operate to remove this anomaly and to ensure that applications for adoption orders pending prior to the commencement of the proposed Ordinance will come within its ambit.

.....GMB.....
Minister's Initials