

Australian Capital Territory

Civil Law (Wrongs) Professional Standards Council Appointment 2015 (No 2)

Disallowable instrument DI2015–40

made under the

Civil Law (Wrongs) Act 2002, s 4.38, schedule 4 (Membership of council)

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

All States and Territories have enacted legislation which enables the establishment of a national Professional Standards Council, which is made up of individual jurisdictional councils. The objects of the legislation are to constitute Professional Standards Councils, to enable the creation of schemes to limit the civil liability of professionals and others, to facilitate the improvement of occupational standards, and to protect consumers.

Section 4.36 of schedule 4 of the *Civil Law (Wrongs) Act 2002* provides for the establishment of the ACT Professional Standards Council (ACT Council). The ACT Council consists of eleven people appointed by the Minister who have the experience, skills and qualifications the Minister considers appropriate to enable them to make a contribution to the work of the ACT Council.

All States and Territories have agreed to appoint the same eleven members to their Professional Standards Councils. The Professional Standards Councils will be comprised of one member nominated by each of the States and Territories and the Commonwealth, with the exception of NSW and Victoria, which will nominate two.

Victoria has appointed Mr Ronald Farrell as a member from 1 January 2015 to 30 June 2015.

The instrument appoints Mr Farrell as a member of the Professional Standards Council from the day after notification and ending on 30 June 2015. This appointment ensures that Victoria is represented on the ACT Council.

The Minister is satisfied that Mr Farrell has the experience, skills and qualifications to enable him to make a contribution to the work of the ACT Council.

Mr Farrell is not a public servant as defined under the *Legislation Act 2001*. As required by the Legislation Act, the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety has been consulted on the appointment. The Committee has provided no comment on the appointment.