

2022

**Legislative Assembly for the
Australian Capital Territory**

**Amendments to the
Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Amendment Bill 2022**

Supplementary Explanatory Statement

Presented by
Elizabeth Lee MLA
Leader of the Opposition
Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLIMATE CHANGE AND GREENHOUSE GAS AMENDMENT BILL 2022

This explanatory statement relates to the Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Amendment Bill 2022 as presented to the Legislative Assembly. It has been prepared in order to assist the reader of the bill and to help inform debate on it. It does not form part of the bill and has not been endorsed by the Assembly. The Statement must be read in conjunction with the bill. It is not, and is not meant to be, a comprehensive description of the bill. What is said about a provision is not to be taken as an authoritative guide to the meaning of a provision, this being a task for the courts.

Purpose

The proposed amendments to the bill would amend the *Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act 2010* to introduce a requirement for the Minister to report annually on the cost effectiveness (i.e. the expected cost of greenhouse gas abatement per tonne) of emissions reduction activities; the ability for the Climate Change Council to provide advice at their discretion to the minister on actions taken in the Territory to address climate change; and for all appointments to the Climate Change Council to first be considered by the relevant Legislative Assembly committee prior to being made.

Clause Notes

Proposed new clause 7A

This clause adds a provision to annual reporting requirements by the minister to include the cost effectiveness of government actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, such as the cost per tonne of greenhouse gas emissions reduction activities.

Proposed new clause 8A

This clause adds a prescribed function for the Climate Change Council to provide advice on actions taken in the Territory to address climate change.

Proposed new clause 9A

This clause adds an obligation for the minister to consult with the relevant committee of the Assembly on appointees to the Climate Change Council. Proposed new section 20 (5) gives effect to this by requiring the Speaker to nominate the relevant committee.