

2026

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

ELEVENTH ASSEMBLY

JURIES (PEREMPTORY CHALLENGES) AMENDMENT BILL 2025

**GOVERNMENT AMENDMENTS
SUPPLEMENTARY EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

**Presented by
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ATTORNEY-GENERAL
MAY 2026**

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JURIES (PEREMPTORY CHALLENGES) AMENDMENT BILL 2025

This Supplementary Explanatory Statement relates to the Juries (Peremptory Challenges) Amendment Bill 2025 (the Bill) – Government Amendments. It has been prepared to assist the reader of the Bill and to help inform debate. It does not form part of the bill and has not been endorsed by the Legislative Assembly.

OVERVIEW OF GOVERNMENT AMENDMENTS

The Government proposes amendments to the Juries (Peremptory Challenges) Amendment Bill 2025, presented to the ACT Legislative Assembly by Mr Werner-Gibbings MLA on 3 December 2025.

The Bill was intended to improve the representativeness of ACT juries and to reduce the time and cost associated with jury empanelment in a criminal trial.

The Government amendment amends the commencement period so that the Bill commences the day after its notification day, rather than 6 months after its notification day. This amendment responds to requests from stakeholders that the Bill commence sooner.

CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSED APPROACH

JACS consulted with legal stakeholders on their views on the Bill as part of determining a government position.

CLIMATE IMPACT

Nil.

CONSISTENCY WITH HUMAN RIGHTS

This amendment shortens the commencement period. It does not engage human rights.

CLAUSE NOTES

1

Clause 2

Page 2, line 4 –

This clause omits the reference to “6 months after its notification day” and substitutes it with “on the day after its notification day”.

This will mean that the Bill commences on the day after its notification day.