2026

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

APPROPRIATION (OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY) BILL 2026-2027

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT
and
HUMAN RIGHTS COMPATIBILITY STATEMENT
(*Human Rights Act 2004*, s 37)

Presented by
Mr Chris Steel MLA
Treasurer

Authorised by the ACT Parliamentary Counsel—also accessible at www.legislation.act.gov.au

APPROPRIATION (OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY) BILL 2026-2027

The Bill **is not** a Significant Bill. Significant Bills are bills that have been assessed as likely to have significant engagement of human rights and require more detailed reasoning in relation to compatibility with the *Human Rights Act 2004*.

OVERVIEW OF THE BILL

The *Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2026-2027* is the mechanism for the appropriation of money for the 2026-27 financial year for the Office of the Legislative Assembly and officers of the Assembly (the ACT Integrity Commissioner, the Auditor-General and the Electoral Commissioner).

Under Section 58 of the *Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988*, public money may not be issued or spent except as authorised by law. Under Section 6 of the *Financial Management Act 1996* (FMA), no payment of public money may be made unless it is in accordance with an appropriation. Section 8 of the FMA provides that there must be a separate Appropriation Act for an appropriation for the Office of the Legislative Assembly. The Bill satisfies the provisions of each of these Acts.

The Bill provides for appropriations for the ACT Integrity Commissioner, the Auditor General, the Electoral Commissioner and the Office of the Legislative Assembly in relation to:

(a) net controlled recurrent payments;

(b) capital injections; and

(c) payments to be made on behalf of the Territory

CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSED APPROACH

Nil.

CONSISTENCY WITH HUMAN RIGHTS

There are no rights engaged under the *Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2026-2027*.

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Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2026-2027

Human Rights Act 2004 - Compatibility Statement

In accordance with section 37 of the *Human Rights Act 2004* I have examined the **Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2026-2027**. In my opinion, having regard to the Bill and the outline of the policy considerations and justification of any limitations on rights outlined in this explanatory statement, the Bill as presented to the Legislative Assembly is consistent with the *Human Rights Act 2004.*

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Tara Cheyne MLA
Attorney-General

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CLAUSE NOTES

Clause 1 cites the short title of the Act as being the *Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Act 2026-2027* as it relates to the 2026-2027 financial year.

Clause 2 provides that the Act is taken to have commenced on 1 July 2026.

Clause 3 refers to the legislative basis for making appropriations.

Clause 4 deals with definitions for the purposes of the Bill.

Clause 5 deals with interpretation for the purposes of the Bill.

Clause 6 provides for the appropriation of $4,627,000 for controlled recurrent payments to the Auditor General in the 2026-2027 financial year.

Clause 7 provides for the appropriation of $5,445,000 for controlled recurrent payments and capital injections to the Electoral Commissioner in the 2026-2027 financial year.

Clause 8 provides for the appropriation of $8,911,000 for controlled recurrent payments to the ACT Integrity Commissioner in the 2026-2027 financial year.

Clause 9 provides for the appropriation of $29,412,000 for controlled recurrent payments, capital injection and payments on behalf of the Territory to the Office of the Legislative Assembly in the 2026-2027 financial year.

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