

No. 39 of 2001

AN ACT

to amend the Sentencing Act

[Assented to 19 July 2001] [Second reading 6 June 2001]

The Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory enacts as follows:

1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the Sentencing Amendment Act (No. 2) 2001.

2. Commencement

This Act comes into operation on the date fixed by the Administrator by notice in the *Gazette*.

3. Sentencing guidelines

Section 5 of the Sentencing Act is amended –

(a) by inserting after subsection (2)(b) the following:

"(ba) if the offence is a sexual offence –

- (i) whether the victim contracted a sexually transmissible medical condition as a result of the offence; and
- (ii) whether the offender was aware at the time of the offence that he or she had a medical condition that could be sexually transmitted;"; and

- (b) by adding at the end the following:
 - "(3) For the purposes of subsection (2)(ba) -
 - (a) a certificate by a medical practitioner that a person has (or had at a stated time) a sexually transmissible medical condition is evidence of the existence of that condition; and
 - (b) if-
 - (i) a certificate is tendered that the offender had at the relevant time a sexually transmissible medical condition; and
 - (ii) evidence is given that the victim contracted the medical condition at a time that is consistent with the medical condition being transmitted from the offender,

the contraction by the victim of the medical condition is to be taken to be a result of the offence.".

4. Definitions

Section 106A of the *Sentencing Act* is amended by inserting after paragraph (b) of the definition of "harm" the following:

"(ba) contraction or fear of contraction of a sexually transmissible medical condition;".