



NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

No. 1 of 1989

AN ACT

to amend the Oaths Act

[Assented to 13 March 1989]

BE it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory of Australia, with the assent as provided by the *Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978* of the Commonwealth, as follows:

1. SHORT TITLE

This Act may be cited as the Oaths Amendment Act 1989.

2. TAKING EVIDENCE OF PERSONS INCOMPETENT TO TAKE OATH, &c.

Section 25A(1) of the Oaths Act is amended by omitting all the words after and including "shall" (first time appearing) and substituting the following:

"may, if satisfied that the person called as a witness -

- (a) has attained the age of 14 years and understands that he will be liable to punishment if the evidence is false;
 - (b) has attained the age of 10 years and -
 - (i) appears to understand and respond rationally to questions and be capable of giving an intelligible account of his experiences;
 - (ii) promises to tell the truth and understands the duty of telling the truth; and
 - (iii) understands that he may be liable to punishment if the evidence is false; or
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(c) has not attained the age of 10 years and -

- (i) appears to understand and respond rationally to questions and be capable of giving an intelligible account of his experiences; and
- (ii) promises to tell the truth and understands the duty of telling the truth,

receive the evidence of that person with the same consequences as if an oath had been administered in the ordinary manner.".
