



NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

No. 38 of 1982

AN ACT

To amend the *Child Welfare Act*

[Assented to 28 June 1982]

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 *Child Welfare Amendment Act 1982*.

2. NEW SECTION

The *Child Welfare Act* is amended by inserting after section 70 the following:

"70A. OFFENCES TO BE REPORTED

"(1) A person who has reasonable grounds for believing that an offence referred to in section 70(1) or (2) is being or has been committed shall, as soon as practicable after obtaining the knowledge which constitutes the reasonable grounds, report that fact, and all material facts on which the knowledge is based, to the Director, a welfare officer or a member of the Police Force.

Penalty: \$200.

"(2) Where a person, acting in good faith, makes a report under or in purported compliance with subsection (1) -

- (a) the report shall not be held to be a breach of confidence or of professional etiquette or ethics or of a rule of professional conduct; and
- (b) no civil or criminal liability is incurred by reason only of the making of the report."