

NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

SENTENCING AMENDMENT (MURDER) ACT 2026

Act No. 5 of 2026

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NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

Act No. 5 of 2026

An Act to amend the *Sentencing Act 1995*

[Assented to 31 March 2026]
[Introduced 4 February 2026]

The Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory enacts as follows:

1 Short title

This Act may be cited as the *Sentencing Amendment (Murder) Act 2026*.

2 Commencement

This Act commences on the day after the day on which the Administrator's assent to this Act is declared.

3 Act amended

This Act amends the *Sentencing Act 1995*.

4 Section 53A amended (Non-parole periods for offence of murder)

(1) Section 53A(3)(f)

omit

homicide.

insert

homicide;

(2) After section 53A(3)(f)

insert

(g) the victim was, at the time of the act or omission that caused the victim's death, or had previously been:

(i) in an intimate personal relationship (as defined in section 11 of the *Domestic and Family Violence Act 2007*) with the offender; or

(ii) the spouse or de facto partner of the offender.

(3) Section 53A(6), after "subsection (1)(a)"

insert

or the non-parole period of 25 years required by the circumstances specified in subsection (3)(g)

5 Part 12, Division 16 inserted

After section 157

insert

Division 16 Transitional matters for Sentencing Amendment (Murder) Act 2026

158 Application of amendments to section 53A

(1) The amendments to section 53A by the *Sentencing Amendment (Murder) Act 2026* do not apply to an offence committed before the commencement of section 4 of that Act.

(2) For subsection (1), if any of the conduct constituting an offence occurred before the commencement, the offence is taken to have been committed before the commencement.

6 Repeal of Act

This Act is repealed on the day after it commences.