

Serial 176
Legal Aid Amendment Act 1999
Mr Burke

**A BILL
for
AN ACT**

to amend the *Legal Aid Act*



NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

LEGAL AID AMENDMENT ACT 1999

No. of 1999

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NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

No. of 1999

AN ACT

to amend the *Legal Aid Act*

[Assented to 1999]
[Second reading 1999]

The Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory enacts as follows:

1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the *Legal Aid Amendment Act 1999*.

2. Commencement

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

3. Principal Act

The *Legal Aid Act* is in this Act referred to as the Principal Act.

4. Interpretation

Section 4 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting in the definition of "Commissioner" in subsection (1) "and a person acting as a Commissioner under section 51A" after "Chairman of the Commission".

5. Constitution of Commission

Section 6 of the Principal Act is amended—

- (a) by omitting from subsection (1)(d) "Law Society;" and substituting "Law Society; and"; and
- (b) by omitting subsection (1)(e).

6. Tenure of office

Section 47 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting "or a person appointed under section 51A to act in the place of a Commissioner" after "the Director".

7. Resignation

Section 49 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting "or a person appointed under section 51A to act in the place of a Commissioner" after "the Director".

8. Removal from office

Section 50 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting in subsections (1) and (2) "or a person appointed under section 51A to act in the place of a Commissioner" after "the Director".

9. New section

The Principal Act is amended by inserting after section 51 the following:

"51A. Regional representatives of staff-elected Commissioner

"(1) The Commission may appoint a member of the staff of the Commission employed at a place outside Darwin to act at a meeting of the Commission in the place of the Commissioner appointed under section 6(1)(f).

"(2) A person appointed under subsection (1) may, with the consent of the Commissioner appointed under section 6(1)(f), act in the place of the Commissioner at a meeting of the Commission.

"(3) The Commission may at any time terminate an appointment under subsection (1).

"(4) A person appointed under subsection (1) may resign from the appointment at any time by writing signed by him or her delivered to the Commission."

10. Meetings

Section 52 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (5)(a) "5 Commissioners" and substituting "4 Commissioners".

