Serial 67 Consumer Affairs and Fair Trading Amendment Bill 2002 Dr Toyne

A BILL for AN ACT

to amend the Consumer Affairs and Fair Trading Act

NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND FAIR TRADING AMENDMENT ACT 2002

No. of 2002

TABLE OF PROVISIONS

Section

1.	Short title
2.	Commencement
3.	Principal Act
4.	Interpretation
5.	Power of Commissioner to obtain information
6.	Powers of entry of authorised officers
7.	Offences
8.	Assertion of right to payment for unsolicited goods or services or for making entry in directory
9.	Offences
10.	Injunctions
11.	Order to disclose information or publish advertisement
12.	Other orders
13.	Power of Court to prohibit payment or transfer of money or other property
14.	Prohibition of certain terms in contracts to which Part 7 applies
15.	Requirements in relation to prescribed contracts
16.	No consideration etc. during cooling-off period in prescribed contract
17.	Dealers not to call during certain hours
18.	Dealers to indicate their purpose for making calls
19.	Dealer to leave premises when requested
20.	Harassment and coercion
21.	Restitution following rescission
22.	Prohibition of certain actions
23.	Procedures in respect of prescribed reports
24.	Duty of trader to disclose receipt of prescribed report
25.	Duty of disclosure of reporting agencies
26.	Correction of errors
27.	Offences
28	Powers of Local Count

29.	Repeal and substitution			
	PART 9 - TRADING STAMPS			
	123. Interpretation	\bigcirc		
	124. Power of Minister to prohibit third-party trading schemes	()		
	124A. Offences			
30.	124B. Regulations for the purposes of this Part			
30. 31.	Definitions for purposes of Part 10			
31. 32.	Unlicensed dealing			
32. 33.	Dealing from unlicensed premises			
33. 34.	Breach of terms or conditions of licence			
35.	Application for licence			
36.	Objections to application Grounds for refusal of licence to individual			
30. 37.	Annual fee and return			
38.	Death of licensed dealer			
39.	Result of inquiry			
40.	Licence to be displayed			
41.	Duty of dealer to maintain dealings register			
42.	Details to be entered into dealings register			
43.	Seller to supply information to dealer			
44.	Contract for sale of second-hand vehicle to be in prescribed			
	form			
45.	Replacement and alteration of odometers			
46.	Prohibition of sale of vehicles without vehicle identification			
	number			
47.	Prohibition on sale of vehicles registered interstate			
48.	Dealings with infants			
49.	Documents to be complete before signing			
50.	Authority required by dealer for sale of motor vehicle on			
	consignment			
51.	Notice to be displayed by licenced dealer			
52.	Advertisements by dealers			
53.	Dealer's managers to be approved by Commissioner			
54.	Disqualifications resulting from revocation, cancellation or			
	suspension of licence			
55.	Commissioner to be notified of dissolution of partnership			
56.	Travel agents to be licensed			
<i>5</i> 7.	Dealings with unlicenced travel agents	()		
58.	Injunction on application by Commissioner	\sim		
59.	Application for licence			
60.	Objections to application	•		
61.	Licence to state licencee's name, business address and place of			
6 2	business	1		
62.	Conditions of, and restrictions on, licence	\cup		
63.	Annual fee and return			
64.	Return of licence on suspension or cancellation			

CF	D. 4. C1'.
65.	Death of licencee
66.	Determination of disciplinary measures by Commissioner
67.	Certain particulars to be displayed
68.	Advertisements
69.	Name to appear on documents
70.	Accounts to be kept
71.	Supervision of day-to-day conduct of business
72.	Employment of disqualified person
73.	Undertakings regarding unjust conduct
74.	Restraining etc. orders
75.	Assurances (former s. 225B)
76.	Contravention of prohibition order (former s. 225G)
77.	Repeal
78.	Undertakings by persons contravening code (former s. 228)
79.	Orders by Local Court where undertaking refused or breached
,	(former s. 230)
80.	Pawnbrokers to be licensed
81.	Second-hand dealers to be licensed
82.	Offence of holding out etc.
83.	Application for licence
84.	Commissioner to advise Police Commissioner etc.
85.	
86.	Offences in relation to licence applications
80. 87.	Suspension, revocation of licences and disqualification
87. 88.	Sign to be displayed
	Certain employee records to be kept and provided to police
89.	Persons under 18 or affected by alcohol or drugs
90.	Identification of persons
91.	Offences in relation to false information
92.	Records to be made by pawnbrokers
93.	Pawn tickets
94.	Records to be made by second-hand dealers
95.	Records to be provided by second-hand dealers
96.	Keeping of records
97.	Tampering with records
98.	Goods to carry contract number
99.	Pawn tickets "lost" or "stolen"
100.	Where pawned goods to be kept
101.	When goods to be redeemed
102.	When goods not to be redeemed
103.	Redemption only to holder of pawn ticket
104.	Sale of unredeemed goods
105.	Unredeemed goods not to be bought by or on behalf of
	pawnbroker
106.	Records to be made on sale of unredeemed goods
107.	Notice as to surplus
108.	Payment of surplus on demand
	or our print our desirate

109.	Second-hand goods to be kept unchanged at least 14 days
110.	Where second-hand goods to be kept
111.	Pawnbroker not to charge establishment fee
112.	Re-pledging of goods prohibited
113.	Entry to and inspection of licensed premises without warrant
114.	Assistance in the location of goods at licensed premises
115.	Provision of, and assistance in relation to, records etc.
116.	Police to be informed in certain circumstances
117.	Information about goods to be given
118.	Notice to stop dealing
119.	Certificate may be issued entitling person to return of goods
120.	Duty to advise pawn ticket holders where pawnbroking business sold
121.	Orders to enable redemption of goods where licence revoked etc.
122.	Secrecy
123.	New section
	330A. Prosecutions
124.	Secrecy (former s. 235)
125.	Regulations (former s. 237)
126.	Transitionals



NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

No. of 2002

AN ACT

to amend the Consumer Affairs and Fair Trading Act

[Assented to 2002] [Second reading 2002]

The Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory enacts as follows:

1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the Consumer Affairs and Fair Trading Amendment Act 2002.

2. Commencement

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

3. Principal Act

The Consumer Affairs and Fair Trading Act is in this Act referred to as the Principal Act.

4. Interpretation

Section 4 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from the definition of "officer" in subsection (1) "section 82A" and substituting "section 9".

5. Power of Commissioner to obtain information

Section 8 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (4) "Penalty: \$20,000 or imprisonment for 3 years." and substituting the following:

"Penalty:

If the offender is a natural person - 400 penalty units or imprisonment for 2 years.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 000 penalty units.".

6. Powers of entry of authorised officers

Section 20 of the Principal Act is amended -

- by omitting from subsection (1)(b) "Part X" and substituting "Part 10"; and (a)
- by omitting from subsection (1)(c) "Part XI" and substituting "Part 11". (b)

7. Offences

and

Section 23 of the Principal Act is amended –

by omitting from subsection (1) "Penalty: \$5,000 or imprisonment for (a) 12 months." and substituting the following:

"Penalty:

If the offender is a natural person - 400 penalty units or imprisonment for 2 years.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 000 penalty units.";

by omitting from subsection (2) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the (b) following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate - 500 penalty units.";

by omitting from subsection (4) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the (c) following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person - 100 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

If the offender is a body corporate - 500 penalty units.".

8. Assertion of right to payment for unsolicited goods or services or for making entry in directory

Section 58 of the Principal Act is amended by adding at the end of subsections (1), (2) and (3) the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

If the offender is a body corporate - 500 penalty units.".

9. Offences

Section 88 of the Principal Act is amended -

- (a) by omitting from subsection (5) "the Supreme Court" and substituting "a court";
- (b) by omitting from subsection (6) "the Supreme Court may (whether the fine was imposed by that Court or by the Court of Summary Jurisdiction)" and "judgment of the Supreme Court" and substituting "a Court may, whether the fine was imposed by that Court or another court," and "judgment of the court" respectively; and
- (c) by omitting subsection (8).

10. Injunctions

Section 89 of the Principal Act is amended -

- (a) by omitting from subsections (1), (3) and (4) "the Supreme Court" and substituting "a Court";
- (b) by omitting from subsection (5) "Supreme Court" and substituting "Court"; and
- (c) by omitting from subsections (6), (7) and (8) "Supreme Court" and substituting "Court".

11. Order to disclose information or publish advertisement

Section 90 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "the Supreme Court" and substituting "the Court".

12. Other orders

Section 95 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsections (1) and (2) "Supreme Court" and substituting "Court".

13. Power of Court to prohibit payment or transfer of money or other property

Section 96 of the Principal Act is amended -

- (a) by omitting from subsection (1) "Supreme Court" and substituting "Court";
- (b) by omitting from subsection (5)(a) "\$20,000" and substituting "500 penalty units"; and
- (c) by omitting from subsection (5)(b) "\$100,000" and substituting "2 500 penalty units".

14. Prohibition of certain terms in contracts to which Part 7 applies

Section 99 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (2) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 200 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 1 000 penalty units.".

15. Requirements in relation to prescribed contracts

Section 101 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (2) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 200 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 1 000 penalty units.".

16. No consideration etc. during cooling-off period in prescribed contract

Section 102 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsections (1) and (2) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units."

If the offender is a body corporate -500 penalty units.".

17. Dealers not to call during certain hours

Section 103 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units."

If the offender is a body corporate -500 penalty units.".

18. Dealers to indicate their purpose for making calls

Section 104 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

19. Dealer to leave premises when requested

Section 105 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

20. Harassment and coercion

Section 106 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsections (1) and (2) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 200 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 1 000 penalty units.".

21. Restitution following rescission

Section 109 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (7) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

22. Prohibition of certain actions

Section 112 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsections (1) and (5) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 200 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 1 000 penalty units.".

23. Procedures in respect of prescribed reports

Section 116 of the Principal Act is amended by adding at the end of subsections (1), (2) and (3) the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 200 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate -1000 penalty units.".

24. Duty of trader to disclose receipt of prescribed report

Section 117 of the Principal Act is amended by adding at the end the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 200 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 1 000 penalty units.".

25. Duty of disclosure of reporting agencies

Section 118 of the Principal Act is amended by adding at the end of subsections (1), (3) and (4) the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 200 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 1 000 penalty units.".

26. Correction of errors

Section 119 of the Principal Act is amended by adding at the end of subsections (2), (3), (4) and (7) the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 200 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 1 000 penalty units.".

27. Offences

Section 121 of the Principal Act is amended –

- (a) by omitting paragraph (a); and
- (b) by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 200 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 1 000 penalty units.".

28. Powers of Local Court

Section 122 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (4) "Penalty: \$5,000 or imprisonment for 2 years." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 400 penalty units or imprisonment for 2 years.

If the offender is a body corporate -2000 penalty units.".

29. Repeal and substitution

Part 9 of the Principal Act is repealed and the following substituted:

"PART 9 – TRADING STAMPS

"123. Interpretation

"(1) In this Part –

'approved third-party trading scheme' means a third-party trading scheme that has been approved under a corresponding law;

'corresponding law' means a law declared under subsection (2);

'prohibited third-party trading scheme' means -

- (a) a third-party trading scheme to which a declaration under section 124(2) relates; or
- (b) a trading stamp scheme under which a trading stamp is provided or intended to be provided in connection with the sale of, or for the purpose of promoting the sale of, tobacco, cigarettes, cigars or other tobacco products;

'third-party trading scheme' means a scheme or arrangement under which the acquisition of goods or services by a consumer from a supplier is a condition, or one of a number of conditions, compliance with which gives rise, or apparently gives rise, to an entitlement to a benefit from a third party in the form of goods or services or some discount, concession or advantage in connection with the acquisition of goods or services;

'trading stamp' means a stamp, coupon, token, voucher, ticket or other thing -

- (a) which is provided or intended to be provided in connection with the sale of, or for the purpose of promoting the sale of, goods or services; or
- (b) by virtue of which the purchaser or any other person may become entitled to, or may qualify for, a prize, gift or other benefit (whether the trading stamp constitutes an absolute entitlement or qualification or a conditional one only).

"(2) The Minister may, by notice in the *Gazette*, declare a law of the Commonwealth, a State or another Territory to be a corresponding law for the purposes of this Part.

"124. Power of Minister to prohibit third-party trading schemes

- "(1) The Commissioner may recommend to the Minister that a third-party trading scheme be declared to be a prohibited third-party trading scheme
 - (a) if the scheme is not an approved third-party trading scheme; and
 - (b) the Commissioner is of the opinion that the scheme is not genuine and reasonable or is contrary to the interests of consumers.
- "(2) The Minister may, on the recommendation of the Commissioner, by notice in the *Gazette*, declare a third-party trading scheme to be a prohibited third-party trading scheme.
- "(3) The Minister may, by notice in the *Gazette*, revoke a declaration under this section.

"124A. Offences

"A person must not -

- (a) act as a promoter of a prohibited third-party trading scheme;
- (b) as a party to a prohibited third-party trading scheme, supply goods or services; or
- publish an advertisement relating to a prohibited third-party trading scheme or cause such an advertisement to be published.

Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -500 penalty units or imprisonment for 2 years.

If the offender is a body corporate -2500 penalty units.

"124B. Regulations for the purposes of this Part

"Regulations made for the purposes of this Part may specify conditions that are to be complied with by persons who act as promoters of third-party trading schemes or supply goods or services as parties to third-party trading schemes.".

30. Definitions for purposes of Part 10

Section 125 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting subsection (4)(b).

31. Unlicensed dealing

Section 128 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$20,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 500 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 500 penalty units.".

32. Dealing from unlicensed premises

Section 129 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (1) "Penalty: \$20,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 500 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 500 penalty units.".

33. Breach of terms or conditions of licence

Section 130 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 500 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 500 penalty units.".

34. Application for licence

Section 132 of the Principal Act is amended by adding at the end the following:

- "(3) An application under subsection (1) is to be accompanied by proof of the placement of a notice in a newspaper or newspapers in accordance with subsection (4) in relation to the application.
- "(4) An applicant for a licence may place in a newspaper circulating in the Territory and, if there is another newspaper circulating in the locality in which the applicant proposes to carry on business as a dealer, that newspaper, a notice in accordance with subsection (5).
 - "(5) A notice under subsection (4) is to –
 - (a) state that the application has been made;
 - (b) set out the prescribed details with respect to the application; and
 - (c) specify a period during which members of the public may, by notice in writing lodged with the Commissioner under section

134(2A), object to the granting of a licence on any of the grounds specified in section 136(1) or 137(1).".

35. Objections to application

Section 134 of the Principal Act is amended -

- (a) by omitting from subsection (1)(a) "applicant; and" and substituting "applicant.";
- (b) by omitting subsection (1)(b);
- (c) by inserting after subsection (2) the following:
- "(2A) A person may, by notice in writing lodged with the Commissioner, object to the granting of a licence on any of the grounds specified in section 136(1) or 137(1)."; and
- (d) by omitting from subsection (3) "(1)(b) or (2)" and substituting "(2) or (2A)".

36. Grounds for refusal of licence to individual

Section 136 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting subsection (2) and substituting the following:

"(2) The Commissioner must also refuse an individual's application for a licence if the applicant fails to comply with a requirement of the Commissioner under section 133.".

37. Annual fee and return

Section 141 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (6) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

38. Death of licensed dealer

Section 144 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (4) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 500 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 500 penalty units.".

39. Result of inquiry

Section 150 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (3) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

40. Licence to be displayed

Section 153 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (1) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units. If the offender is a body corporate -500 penalty units.".

41. Duty of dealer to maintain dealings register

Section 157 of the Principal Act is amended –

(a) by omitting from subsection (1) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -200 penalty units."; and

(b) by adding at the end of subsection (3) the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 20 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 100 penalty units.".

42. Details to be entered into dealings register

Section 158 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (1) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units."

If the offender is a body corporate -500 penalty units.".

43. Seller to supply information to dealer

Section 159 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (3) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty:

If the offender is a natural person - 100 penalty units or

imprisonment for 6 months.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

44. Contract for sale of second-hand vehicle to be in prescribed form

Section 160 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsections (1) and (7) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty:

If the offender is a natural person -500 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 500 penalty.".

45. Replacement and alteration of odometers

Section 161 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsections (1), (2) and (3) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty:

If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

46. Prohibition of sale of vehicles without vehicle identification number

Section 163 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (1) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty:

If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate -500 penalty units.".

47. Prohibition on sale of vehicles registered interstate

Section 164 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty:

If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate -500 penalty units.".

48. Dealings with infants

Section 166 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (1) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty:

If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

49. Documents to be complete before signing

Section 167 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

50. Authority required by dealer for sale of motor vehicle on consignment

Section 172 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsections (1) and (3) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

51. Notice to be displayed by licenced dealer

Section 174 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (1) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 20 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 100 penalty units.".

52. Advertisements by dealers

Section 175 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 20 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 100 penalty units.".

53. Dealer's managers to be approved by Commissioner

Section 176 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (1) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 500 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 500 penalty units.".

54. Disqualifications resulting from revocation, cancellation or suspension of licence

Section 177 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (3) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 5 000 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate -25000 penalty units.".

55. Commissioner to be notified of dissolution of partnership

Section 178 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: 100 penalty units.".

56. Travel agents to be licensed

Section 188 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (1) "Penalty: \$50,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 500 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 500 penalty units.".

57. Dealings with unlicenced travel agents

Section 188A of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (1) "Penalty: \$2,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 500 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 500 penalty units.".

58. Injunction on application by Commissioner

Section 189 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Supreme Court" and substituting "Local Court".

59. Application for licence

Section 190 of the Principal Act is amended -

- (a) by inserting after subsection (3) the following:
- "(3A) An application under subsection (1) is to be accompanied by proof of the placement of a notice in a newspaper or newspapers in accordance with subsection (3B) in relation to the application.
- "(3B) An applicant for a licence may place in a newspaper circulating in the Territory and, if there is another newspaper circulating in the locality in which the applicant proposes to carry on business as a dealer, that newspaper, a notice in accordance with subsection (3C).
 - "(3C) A notice under subsection (3B) is to -

- (a) state that the application has been made;
- (b) set out the prescribed details with respect to the application; and
- (c) specify a period during which members of the public may, by notice in writing lodged with the Commissioner, object under section 191(2A) to the granting of a licence on the grounds that the applicant is not a fit and proper person.";
- (b) by omitting from subsection (4) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units."; and

(c) by omitting from subsection (6) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 5 000 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 500 penalty units.".

60. Objections to application

Section 191 of the Principal Act is amended -

- (a) by omitting from subsection (1)(a) "applicant; and" and substituting "applicant.";
- (b) by omitting subsection (1)(b);
- (c) by inserting after subsection (2) the following:
- "(2A) A person may, by notice in writing lodged with the Commissioner, object to the granting of a licence on the grounds that the applicant is not a fit and proper person."; and
- (d) by omitting from subsection (3) "(1)(b) or (2)" and substituting "(2) or (2A)".
- 61. Licence to state licencee's name, business address and place of business

Section 194 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (2) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 500 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 500 penalty units.".

62. Conditions of, and restrictions on, licence

Section 195 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (6) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 500 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 500 penalty units.".

63. Annual fee and return

Section 198 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (6) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

64. Return of licence on suspension or cancellation

Section 201 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

65. Death of licencee

Section 203 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (4) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 500 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 500 penalty units.".

66. Determination of disciplinary measures by Commissioner

Section 205 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsections (3) and (5) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 500 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 500 penalty units.".

67. Certain particulars to be displayed

Section 209 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 20 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 100 penalty units.".

68. Advertisements

Section 210 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 20 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 100 penalty units.".

69. Name to appear on documents

Section 211 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

70. Accounts to be kept

Section 212 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (1) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

71. Supervision of day-to-day conduct of business

Section 213 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 500 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 500 penalty units.".

72. Employment of disqualified person

Section 214 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (1) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 500 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 500 penalty units.".

73. Undertakings regarding unjust conduct

Section 216 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (3) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 500 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

If the offender is a body corporate - 2 500 penalty units.".

74. Restraining etc. orders

Section 218 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsections (1) and (4) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

75. Assurances (former s. 225B)

Section 227 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (3) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 500 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 500 penalty units.".

76. Contravention of prohibition order (former s. 225G)

Section 232 of the Principal Act is amended -

(a) by omitting from subsection (1) "Penalty: \$30,000 or imprisonment for 6 months." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 500 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

If the offender is a body corporate -2500 penalty units."; and

(b) by omitting from subsection (2) "Penalty: \$8,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 500 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 500 penalty units.".

77. Repeal

Part 12, Division 4 of the Principal Act is repealed.

78. Undertakings by persons contravening code (former s. 228)

Section 240 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (2) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 500 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 500 penalty units.".

79. Orders by Local Court where undertaking refused or breached (former s. 230)

Section 242 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (7) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 500 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 500 penalty units.".

80. Pawnbrokers to be licensed

Section 247 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$50,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 500 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 500 penalty units.".

81. Second-hand dealers to be licensed

Section 248 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$50,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 500 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 2 500 penalty units.".

82. Offence of holding out etc.

Section 249 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (2) "Penalty: \$50,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -500 penalty units."

If the offender is a body corporate -2500 penalty units.".

83. Application for licence

Section 251 of the Principal Act is amended –

- (a) by omitting "An application" and substituting "(1) An application"; and
- (b) by adding at the end the following:
- "(2) An application under subsection (1) is to be accompanied by proof of the placement of a notice in a newspaper or newspapers in accordance with subsection (3) in relation to the application.
- "(3) An applicant for a licence may place in a newspaper circulating in the Territory and, if there is another newspaper circulating in the locality in which the applicant proposes to carry on business as a dealer, that newspaper, a notice in accordance with subsection (4).
 - "(4) A notice under subsection (3) is to –
 - (a) state that the application has been made;
 - (b) set out the prescribed details with respect to the application; and
 - (c) specify a period during which members of the public may, by notice in writing lodged with the Commissioner under section 252(2A) object to the granting of a licence on any of the grounds specified in section 258.".

84. Commissioner to advise Police Commissioner etc.

Section 252 of the Principal Act is amended -

- (a) by omitting from subsection (1)(a) "applicant; and" and substituting "applicant.";
- (b) by omitting subsection (1)(b);
- (c) by inserting after subsection (2) the following:
- "(2A) A person may, by notice in writing lodged with the Commissioner, object to the granting of a licence on any of the grounds specified in section 258."; and
- (d) by omitting from subsection (3) "(1)(b) or (2)" and substituting "(2) or (2A)".

85. Offences in relation to licence applications

Section 257 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

86. Suspension, revocation of licences and disqualification

Section 267 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (4) "Penalty: \$2,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 20 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 100 penalty units.".

87. Sign to be displayed

Section 274 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$2,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 20 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 100 penalty units.".

88. Certain employee records to be kept and provided to police

Section 275 of the Principal Act is amended -

(a) by omitting from subsection (3) "Penalty: \$2,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units. If the offender is a body corporate -500 penalty units.":

(b) by omitting from subsection (5) "Penalty: \$1,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units."; and

(c) by omitting from subsection (6) "Penalty: \$2,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units."

If the offender is a body corporate -500 penalty units.".

89. Persons under 18 or affected by alcohol or drugs

Section 276 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

90. Identification of persons

Section 277 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (1) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

91. Offences in relation to false information

Section 278 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

92. Records to be made by pawnbrokers

Section 279 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

93. Pawn tickets

Section 280 of the Principal Act is amended –

(a) by adding at the end of subsection (1) the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate -500 penalty units."; and

(b) by omitting from subsection (3) "Penalty: \$2,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 20 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate -100 penalty units.".

94. Records to be made by second-hand dealers

Section 281 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (1) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units."

If the offender is a body corporate -500 penalty units.".

95. Records to be provided by second-hand dealers

Section 282 of the Principal Act is amended -

(a) by adding at the end of subsection (1) the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units."; and

(b) by omitting from subsection (2) "Penalty: \$2,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -20 penalty units. If the offender is a body corporate -100 penalty units.".

96. Keeping of records

Section 283 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsections (4), (5) and (6) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units."

If the offender is a body corporate -500 penalty units.".

97. Tampering with records

Section 284 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

If the offender is a body corporate -500 penalty units.".

98. Goods to carry contract number

Section 285 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (2) "Penalty: \$2,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 20 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 100 penalty units.".

99. Pawn tickets "lost" or "stolen"

Section 286 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (2) "Penalty: \$2,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -20 penalty units."

If the offender is a body corporate -100 penalty units."

100. Where pawned goods to be kept

Section 289 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

101. When goods to be redeemed

Section 290 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

102. When goods not to be redeemed

Section 291 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (2) "Penalty: \$2,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 20 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 100 penalty units.".

103. Redemption only to holder of pawn ticket

Section 292 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

104. Sale of unredeemed goods

Section 293 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsections (1) and (2) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

105. Unredeemed goods not to be bought by or on behalf of pawnbroker

Section 294 of the Principal Act is amended -

(a) by adding at the end of subsection (1) the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units."; and

(b) by omitting from subsection (2) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

106. Records to be made on sale of unredeemed goods

Section 296 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (2) "Penalty: \$2,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

107. Notice as to surplus

Section 297 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (1) "Penalty: \$2,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

108. Payment of surplus on demand

Section 298 of the Principal Act is amended by adding at the end the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate -500 penalty units.".

109. Second-hand goods to be kept unchanged at least 14 days

Section 299 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units."

If the offender is a body corporate -500 penalty units.".

110. Where second-hand goods to be kept

Section 300 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$2,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

111. Pawnbroker not to charge establishment fee

Section 301 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (1) "Penalty: \$2,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units. If the offender is a body corporate -500 penalty units.".

112. Re-pledging of goods prohibited

Section 302 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units."

If the offender is a body corporate -500 penalty units.".

113. Entry to and inspection of licensed premises without warrant

Section 311 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (4) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units."

If the offender is a body corporate -500 penalty units.".

114. Assistance in the location of goods at licensed premises

Section 312 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (3) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

115. Provision of, and assistance in relation to, records etc.

Section 313 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (4) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

If the offender is a body corporate -500 penalty units.".

116. Police to be informed in certain circumstances

Section 315 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$2,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

117. Information about goods to be given

Section 316 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

118. Notice to stop dealing

Section 317 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (4) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 100 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

If the offender is a body corporate -500 penalty units.".

119. Certificate may be issued entitling person to return of goods

Section 318 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (2) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

120. Duty to advise pawn ticket holders where pawnbroking business sold

Section 326 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsections (2) and (3) "Penalty: \$2,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -20 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

If the offender is a body corporate – 100 penalty units.".

121. Orders to enable redemption of goods where licence revoked etc.

Section 327 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (3) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -100 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

If the offender is a body corporate – 500 penalty units.".

122. Secrecy

Section 328 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (1) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person -400 penalty units or imprisonment for 2 years.

If the offender is a body corporate -2000 penalty units.".

123. New section

The Principal Act is amended by inserting before section 330 in Part 15 the following:

"330A. Prosecutions

- "(1) Proceedings for an offence against this Act may only be commenced
 - (a) within 2 years after the date on which the offence is alleged to have been committed; or
 - (b) with the authorisation of the Minister, at a later time within 5 years after the date on which the offence is alleged to have been committed.

"(2) In any proceedings, an apparently genuine document purporting to be an authorisation under subsection (1) is to be accepted, in the absence of proof to the contrary, as proof of the authorisation.".

124. Secrecy (former s. 235)

Section 335 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (1) "Penalty: \$5,000." and substituting the following:

"Penalty: If the offender is a natural person – 400 penalty units or imprisonment for 2 years.

If the offender is a body corporate -2000 penalty units.".

125. Regulations (former s. 237)

Section 338 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from subsection (3) "\$2,000" and substituting "100 penalty units for a natural person or 500 penalty units for a body corporate".

126. Transitionals

- (1) Section 330A of the Principal Act as amended by this Act applies to an offence against this Act although the offence was committed before the commencement of this Act.
 - (2) The amendments to the Principal Act made by –
 - (a) sections 34 and 35 of this Act do not apply in relation to an application lodged under section 132 of the Principal Act before those sections commenced;
 - (b) sections 59 and 60 of this Act do not apply in relation to an application lodged under section 190 of the Principal Act before those sections commenced; and
 - (c) sections 83 and 84 of this Act do not apply in relation to an application lodged under section 251 of the Principal Act before those sections commenced.

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