

Serial 29
Public Information Amendment Bill 2025
Mrs Finocchiaro

A Bill for an Act to amend the *Public Information Act 2010* and for related purposes

NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

PUBLIC INFORMATION AMENDMENT ACT 2025

Act No. [] of 2025

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NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

Act No. [] of 2025

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An Act to amend the *Public Information Act 2010* and for related purposes

[Assented to [] 2025]
[Introduced [] 2025]

The Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory enacts as follows:

10

Part 1 Preliminary matters

1 Short title

This Act may be cited as the *Public Information Amendment Act 2025*.

2 Commencement

15

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

Part 2 Amendment of Public Information Act 2010

3 Act amended

This Part amends the *Public Information Act 2010*.

4 Section 6 amended (Review of public information)

(1) Section 6(1)

omit, insert

5 (1) The Ombudsman may, at any time on the Ombudsman's own initiative or on the written request of an Assembly member, conduct a review of particular public information to determine whether this Act is contravened in relation to the information.

Note for subsection (1)

See section 12 of the Ombudsman Act 2009.

10 (1A) If the Ombudsman decides not to review particular public information as requested by an Assembly member, the Ombudsman must notify the member of the decision.

(2) Section 6(2), (2A), (3), (5) and (6)

omit (all references)

15 Auditor-General

insert

Ombudsman

5 Part 5 inserted

After section 11

20 *insert*

**Part 5 Transitional matters for Public Information
Amendment Act 2025**

12 Definitions

In this Part:

25 ***amending Act*** means the *Public Information Amendment Act 2025*.

commencement means the commencement of the amending Act.

13 Reviews not completed or reports not finalised before commencement to be transferred to Ombudsman

(1) The following must be dealt with by the Ombudsman in accordance with this Act as in force after the commencement:

5 (a) a review under section 6, as in force immediately before the commencement, that is not completed by the Auditor-General before the commencement;

10 (b) a report under section 7, as in force immediately before the commencement, that is not finalised by the Auditor-General before the commencement.

(2) To avoid doubt, the discretion of the Ombudsman under section 6, as in force after the commencement, to conduct or not to conduct a review, applies to a matter that is to be dealt with by the Ombudsman in accordance with subsection (1)(a).

15 (3) As soon as practicable after the commencement, the Auditor-General must transfer to the Ombudsman all documents, materials and evidence in the Auditor-General's possession in relation to the matters to be dealt with by the Ombudsman in accordance with subsection (1).

20 **14 Application of amendments to section 7(3) and (5)**

25 Section 7(3) and (5), as in force immediately before the commencement, continue to apply after the commencement in relation to a report the Auditor-General prepared under section 7 but had not given to the Speaker or Assembly member (as the case requires) before the commencement.

6 Act further amended

Schedule 1 has effect.

Part 3 Amendment of Public Information Regulations 2017

30 **7 Regulations amended**

Schedule 2 amends the *Public Information Regulations 2017*.

Part 4 Repeal

8 Repeal of Act

This Act is repealed on the day after it commences.

Schedule 1 Public Information Act 2010 further amended

section 6

Provision	Amendment	
	<i>omit</i>	<i>insert</i>
section 3, definition <i>working day</i>	whole definition	
section 5(2)	In addition, each	Each
section 5(3)	However,	Despite subsections (1) and (2),
section 5(3)(a)(ii)	Territory; or	Territory;
section 5(3)(a)(iii)	whole subparagraph	
Part 2, heading	Auditor-General's	Ombudsman's
section 7(1) and (2)(a) and (b) and (3)	Auditor-General (<i>all references</i>)	Ombudsman
section 7(2)(a)(ii)	Auditor-General's	Ombudsman's
section 7(3)(b)	section 24(1) of the <i>Audit Act 1995</i>	section 152 of the <i>Ombudsman Act 2009</i>
section 8, heading	Auditor-General's	Ombudsman's
section 8(1), (2), (3) and (5)	Auditor-General (<i>all references</i>)	Ombudsman
section 8(2)(a)	Auditor-General's	Ombudsman's
section 8(2)(b)	working days	business days

Schedule 2 Public Information Regulations 2017

section 7

Provision	Amendment	
	<i>omit</i>	<i>insert</i>
Parts 1 and 2, heading	whole heading	
regulation 3	Auditor-General	Ombudsman
