

Serial 43
Attorney-General and Police Legislation Amendment Bill 2025
Ms Boothby

A Bill for an Act to amend the *Firearms Act 1997*, the *Information Act 2002*,
the *Police Administration Act 1978* and the *Public Trustee Act 1979*

NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

**ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND POLICE LEGISLATION
AMENDMENT ACT 2025**

Act No. [] of 2025

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NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

Act No. [] of 2025

5

An Act to amend the *Firearms Act 1997*, the *Information Act 2002*, the *Police Administration Act 1978* and the *Public Trustee Act 1979*

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

10 The Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory enacts as follows:

Part 1 Preliminary matters

1 Short title

This Act may be cited as the *Attorney-General and Police Legislation Amendment Act 2025*.

15

2 Commencement

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

Part 2 Amendment of Firearms Act 1997

3 Act amended

20

This Part amends the *Firearms Act 1997*.

4 Section 35 amended (Permits to purchase or acquire firearms)

(1) Section 35(5)

omit

where:

5 *insert*

if the checks prescribed by regulation have been completed and:

(2) Section 35(5)(a)(ii)

omit

and

10 *insert*

or

(3) Section 35(5)(b)

omit, insert

15 (b) if the permit is for the purchase or acquisition of a category A firearm or category B firearm – the person:

(i) holds a licence for the category of firearm to be purchased or acquired; and

(ii) owns a registered firearm of the same category as the firearm to be purchased or acquired.

20 **5 Part 13, Division 4 inserted**

After section 120

insert

**Division 4 Attorney-General and Police Legislation
Amendment Act 2025**

25 **121 Application of amendments to section 35**

(1) The amendments made to section 35 by the amending Act do not apply in relation to an application for a permit that was made, but not decided, before the commencement.

(2) Section 35, as in force immediately before the commencement, continues to apply in relation to an application mentioned in subsection (1).

(3) In this section:

5 **amending Act** means the *Attorney-General and Police Legislation Amendment Act 2025*.

commencement means the commencement of section 4 of the amending Act.

Part 3 Amendment of Information Act 2002

10 6 Act amended

This Part amends the *Information Act 2002*.

7 Section 5 amended (Public sector organisations)

(1) Section 5(6)

omit (all references)

15 parliamentary secretary

insert

assistant minister

(2) After section 5(6)

insert

20 (6A) To avoid doubt, for Part 3, a minister, an assistant minister and a member of the staff of a minister or assistant minister (each a **ministerial entity**) is not a public sector organisation in relation to recorded information in any form, (including data in a computer system), including a part or copy of that information, held by the

25 ministerial entity that:

(a) was created or received by the ministerial entity; and

(b) has not been shared with or provided to a public sector organisation other than another ministerial entity; and

30 (c) is not government information of a kind mentioned in subsection (6).

8 Section 11 amended (Information about public sector organisations)

Section 11(4), definition *public sector organisation*, paragraph (b)
omit, insert

5 (b) an assistant minister;

9 Section 55 amended (Confidentiality obligations, confidential sources)

Section 55(2)(a)(i) and (ii)

omit

10 parliamentary secretary

insert

assistant minister

10 Part 15 inserted

Before Schedule 1

15 *insert*

Part 15 Transitional matter for Attorney-General and Police Legislation Amendment Act 2025

168 Application of amendment to section 5

20 Section 5(6A) applies in relation to information created or received by a ministerial entity, as defined in that subsection, before or after the commencement of section 7 of the *Attorney-General and Police Legislation Amendment Act 2025*.

Part 4 Amendment of Police Administration Act 1978

11 Act amended

25 This Part amends the *Police Administration Act 1978*.

12 Section 4 amended (Interpretation)

Section 4(1), definition *merit*, after "Force"

insert

under Part II, Division 3

5 13 Section 6A inserted

Before section 7, in Part II, Division 2

insert

6A Principles for appointment

10 (1) In appointing a person to an office under this Division, the merit of the person is to be the primary, but not the sole, consideration.

(2) For subsection (1), the merit of a person for appointment to an office under this Division means the capacity of the person to perform the duties of the office, having regard to the person's:

(a) knowledge, skills, qualifications and experience; and

15 (b) aptitude, diligence, good conduct and quality of service; and

(c) potential for further development in the Police Force.

14 Section 15A amended (Merit for appointment or promotion)

Section 15A, after "Force"

insert

20 under this Division

Part 5 Amendment of Public Trustee Act 1979**15 Act amended**

This Part amends the *Public Trustee Act 1979*.

16 Section 8 amended (Appointment of Public Trustee)

(1) After section 8(1)

insert

5 (1A) The Public Trustee holds office on the conditions (including remuneration, expenses and allowances) determined by the Administrator.

(2) After section 8(2)

omit

Administrator may appoint a person

10 *insert*

Minister may appoint a public sector employee

17 Part X inserted

After section 101

insert

15 **Part X Transitional matter for Attorney-General and Police Legislation Amendment Act 2025**

102 Application of amendment to section 8

20 Section 8(1A) does not apply in relation to the person holding office as the Public Trustee immediately before the commencement of section 16 of the *Attorney-General and Police Legislation Amendment Act 2025*.

Part 6 Act repealed

18 Repeal of Act

This Act is repealed on the day after it commences.