

# Explanatory Statement

## STATUTE LAW AMENDMENT (SUCCESSION OF THE CROWN) BILL 2023

### SERIAL NO. 80

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE  
NORTHERN TERRITORY

CHIEF MINISTER

### GENERAL OUTLINE

The purpose of this Bill is to update the references in Northern Territory legislation from Queen to King necessitated by the death of Queen Elizabeth II and the accession of King Charles III.

This Bill amends the following pieces of Northern Territory legislation:

- *Interpretation Act 1978*
- *Criminal Code Act 1983*
- *Director of Public Prosecutions Act 1990*
- *Juries Act 1962*
- *Justices of the Peace Act 1991*
- *Land Title Act 2000*
- *Local Court Act 2015*
- *Police Administration Act 1978*
- *Prisoners (Interstate Transfer) Act 1983*
- *Sentencing Act 1995*
- *Supreme Court Act 1979*
- *Associations Regulations 2004*

### NOTES ON CLAUSES

#### **Clause 1. Short Title.**

This is a formal clause which provides for the citation of the Bill. The Bill when passed will be cited as the *Statute Law Amendment (Succession of the Crown) Act 2023*.

#### **Clause 2. Commencement.**

This clause sets out how the amendment Act will be commenced. In this case this will be done by notice given by the Administrator in the Northern Territory Government Gazette.

#### **Clause 3. Act Amended**

Provides that Part 2 of the amendment Act will amend the *Interpretation Act 1978*.

#### **Clause 4. Reference to the Sovereign**

Inserts a new section 31 of the *Interpretation Act 1978* to provide that any reference to a Sovereign in legislation are to be interpreted as a reference to the presently reigning Sovereign.

#### **Clause 5. Other laws amended**

Provides that the Schedule will amend the laws mentioned in it.

#### **Clause 6. Repeal of Act**

This clause provides that the amending Act is repealed on the day after it commences.

#### **Schedule Other laws amended**

Amends the following Acts to replace reference to the female Sovereign such as “Her Majesty” , “Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second”, “our Sovereign Lady the Queen” or “Queen” with a gender neutral reference such as “the Sovereign” or “[Sovereign’s Name]”:

- *Criminal Code Act 1983*
- *Director of Public Prosecutions Act 1990*
- *Juries Act 1962*
- *Justices of the Peace Act 1991*
- *Land Title Act 2000*
- *Local Court Act 2015*
- *Police Administration Act 1978*
- *Prisoners (Interstate Transfer) Act 1983*
- *Sentencing Act 1995*
- *Supreme Court Act 1979*
- *Associations Regulations 2004*