

[Act 1996 No 25]



New South Wales

Prisons Amendment Bill 1995

Explanatory note

This explanatory note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament.*

Overview of Bill

The objects of this Bill are to:

- (a) amend the *Prisons Act 1952*:
 - to rename the Act as the *Correctional Centres Act 1952*, and
 - to replace other outdated references to prisons, prison complexes, prisoners and prison officers with references to correctional centres, correctional complexes, inmates and correctional officers respectively, and
 - to enable leave of absence to be granted to inmates to travel interstate and to facilitate similar leave within the State by inmates from interstate, and
 - to increase the maximum penalty for certain offences involving contraband from 6 months imprisonment or 10 penalty units (or both) to 2 years imprisonment or 20 penalty units (or both), and

* Amended in committee—see table at end of volume.

- to provide for penalties for trafficking in drugs and poisons in correctional centres and correctional complexes that are comparable with penalties for supplying prohibited drugs under the *Drug Misuse and Trafficking Act 1985* and supplying poisons under the *Poisons Act 1966*, and
 - to enable Visiting Justices to order inmates to pay compensation for property damage for an amount that exceeds the present \$300 limit, and
 - to clarify the operation of provisions dealing with the segregation of inmates, and
 - to make an amendment in the nature of statute law revision, and
- (b) to amend the *Criminal Procedure Act 1986* consequentially.

Outline of provisions

Clause 1 sets out the name (also called the short title) of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides for the commencement of the proposed Act on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation. It also provides for the delayed commencement of some items of Schedule 5 to the proposed Act that amend certain uncommenced provisions.

Clause 3 is a formal provision giving effect to the amendments to the *Prisons Act 1952* set out in Schedules 1.1 and 2–6.

Clause 4 is a formal provision giving effect to the amendments to the *Criminal Procedure Act 1986* set out in Schedule 1.2.

Clause 5 provides that explanatory notes contained in the proposed Act do not form part of the proposed Act.

Further explanation of the amendments is made in the explanatory notes relating to the amendments concerned.