

[Act 1996 No 77]



New South Wales

Innovation Council Bill 1996

Explanatory note

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

Overview of Bill

The object of this Bill is to establish the New South Wales Innovation Council as a body corporate with the object of assisting in the creation of jobs, investment, exports and interstate trade by raising the level of innovative activity in New South Wales.

The role of the Council in achieving that object will be:

- to investigate issues relevant to the promotion of innovation, and
 - to facilitate the flow of information and ideas between the Government, industry and the research community, and
 - to advise on proposed programs and Government initiatives that promote public and private sector innovation.
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Outline of provisions

Part 1 Preliminary

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.

Clause 3 defines certain words and expressions used in the proposed Act.

Part 2 The Innovation Council

Clause 4 establishes the New South Wales Innovation Council as a body corporate and provides that the Council is a statutory body representing the Crown.

Clause 5 sets out the object of the Council.

Clause 6 provides for the appointment of the 16 members of the Council.

Part 3 Operations and functions of Council

Clause 7 provides that the Council is subject to Ministerial control.

Clause 8 lists the functions of the Council. One of its key functions is to investigate issues relevant to the promotion of innovation in New South Wales.

Clause 9 allows the Council to establish committees to assist it in connection with the exercise of any of its functions.

Clause 10 empowers the Council to delegate any of its functions.

Clause 11 requires the Council to report to the Minister when requested to do so.

Clause 12 provides for the publication of the results of Council investigations.

Clause 13 empowers the Council to require public authorities to provide certain information.

Part 4 General

Clause 14 empowers the Council to make use of any staff or facilities of a public authority.

Clause 15 provides that the expenses of the Council are to be met from money to be provided by Parliament.

Clause 16 provides that for the purposes of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1983*, the *Annual Reports (Departments) Act 1985*, or any other prescribed Act, the Council is taken to be part of the Department of State and Regional Development.

Clause 17 confers protection from liability for certain acts and omissions.

Clause 18 provides for the service of documents on the Council.

Clause 19 provides that the proposed Act binds the Crown.

Clause 20 creates a regulation-making power.

Clause 21 repeals the *Science and Technology Council Act 1979* (the Act that constituted the New South Wales Science and Technology Council and set out its functions).

Clause 22 is a formal provision that gives effect to Schedule 3, which is the Schedule of savings and transitional provisions.

Clause 23 is a formal provision that gives effect to Schedule 4, which is the Schedule of consequential amendments to an Act and Regulation.

Clause 24 provides for the review of the proposed Act.

Schedules

Schedule 1 makes provision with respect to the members of the Council.

Schedule 2 makes provision for the procedure of the Council.

Schedule 3 dissolves the New South Wales Science and Technology Council and makes savings and transitional provisions consequent on the dissolution of that body.

Schedule 4 makes consequential amendments to an Act and a Regulation.