

COMMUNITY SERVICE ORDERS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989

NEW SOUTH WALES



EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Explanatory Note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament)

The object of this Bill is to amend the Community Service Orders Act 1979:

- (a) to increase, from 300 to 500, the maximum number of hours of community service work that a court may (when making a community service order) require an offender to perform; and
- (b) to provide for the expiration of a community service order after 18 months if the number of hours specified in the order is more than 300 (the existing maximum period of 12 months is retained if the maximum number of hours specified in the order does not exceed 300).

Clause 1 specifies the short title of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides that the proposed Act commences on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation.

Clause 3 is a formal provision that gives effect to the Schedule of amendments to the Community Service Orders Act 1979.

Clause 4 (1) provides that the amendment which increases the number of hours of community service work that a court may impose applies to a person sentenced after the commencement of the amendment. Since the amendment will enable the court to make greater use of community service orders as an alternative to imprisonment in the case of more serious offences, the amendment applies even though the person committed or is convicted of the offence before the commencement of the amendment.

Clause 4 (2) provides that the amendments relating to the duration of a community service order apply to an order made after the commencement of those amendments.

Community Service Orders (Amendment) 1989

Schedule 1 amends the Community Service Orders Act 1979 to give effect to the object stated above.
