

Act No. 128

**DEFAMATION (MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS)
AMENDMENT BILL 1987**

NEW SOUTH WALES



EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

This Bill is cognate with the Medical Practitioners (Amendment) Bill 1987.

The object of this Bill is to amend the Defamation Act 1974 so as to create defences against defamation proceedings arising out of publications in or about disciplinary proceedings under the Medical Practitioners Act 1938, as intended to be amended.

Clause 1 specifies the short title of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 specifies that the proposed Act will, with minor exceptions, commence on a day to be appointed by the Governor-in-Council.

Clause 3 gives effect to the Schedule of amendments.

Schedule 1 (1) inserts proposed section 17^{FA} into the Principal Act. The proposed section gives a defence of absolute privilege to publications for the purposes of, and of reports resulting from, proceedings of the New South Wales Medical Board, Professional Standards Committees or the Medical Tribunal under the Medical Practitioners Act 1938.

Defamation (Medical Practitioners) Amendment 1987

Schedule 1 (2) amends Schedule 2 of the Principal Act so as to give a defence of fair report for the publication of reports of proceedings or decisions of the New South Wales Medical Board, Professional Standards Committees or the Medical Tribunal under the Medical Practitioners Act 1938.
