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A BILL FOR

An Act to amend the Corrections Act 1997 to provide for the Parole Board to include a person representing victims of crime and for related purposes

Be it enacted by His Excellency the Governor of Tasmania, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly, in Parliament assembled, as follows:

1. **Short title**

   This Act may be cited as the Corrections (Victims of Crime) Amendment Act 2008.

2. **Commencement**

   This Act commences on the day on which it receives the Royal Assent.

3. **Principal Act**

   In this Act, the Corrections Act 1997* is referred to as the Principal Act.

4. **Amendment of Principal Act – Interpretation**

   Section 3 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting the following definition after the definition of “sentence” –

   “serious offence” has the same meaning as in the Crime (Confiscation of Profits) Act 1993.

Act No. 51 of 1997
5. Amendment of Principal Act – Establishment of Parole Board

Section 62 of the Principal Act is amended as follows –

(1) In subsection (2) omit “3” and substitute “4”.

(2) Insert after subsection (2)(c) –

(c) 1 is to be a person whom the Governor is satisfied has knowledge and understanding of the impact of serious offences on victims.

6. Amendment of Principal Act – Schedule 2

Schedule 2 of the Principal Act is amended as follows –

(1) 11. Procedure at meetings

Item 1 – Omit “three” and substitute “four”.

(2) The following new Item 13A is inserted –

13A. Conflict of interest

(1) A member is to disclose at a meeting of the Board any conflict of interest in relation to any matter.

(2) At any meeting of the Board, a member must not participate in any discussion, or vote on any matter, in respect of which the member –

(a) has an interest; or

(b) is aware or ought to be aware that a close associate has an interest.

(3) A member must declare any interest in a matter before any discussion on that matter commences.

(4) On declaring an interest, the member is to leave the room in which the meeting is being held.

(5) The chairperson is to ensure that the declaration of interest is recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which the declaration is made.
(6) An act or proceeding of the Board is not invalid by reason only that at the time when the act or proceeding was done, taken or commenced, a member was absent from the meeting because the member had declared a conflict of interest.