

## FACT SHEET

### *Supreme Court Amendment (Judges) Bill 2016*

The Supreme Court Amendment (Judges) Bill 2016 (the Bill) makes amendments to the *Supreme Court Act 1887* and the *Supreme Court Act 1959*.

The principal purpose of the Bill is to amend the *Supreme Court Act 1887* to provide for the appointment and payment of acting judges on a part time basis. The Bill amends that Act to provide:

- that acting judges can be appointed on either a full-time or part-time basis;
- a means by which the remuneration of a part-time acting judge is calculated; and
- that an acting judge may complete any part-heard matters before them at the end of their appointed term.

In addition the Bill also amends the *Supreme Court Act 1887* by modernising the language used to refer to the legal profession, and modernising the language used in the provisions of the Act relating to qualifications required for appointment as a judge.

The Bill also retrospectively validates appointments to the Supreme Court to remove any doubt over an appointments validity caused by the historical description of the legal practice used in the *Supreme Court Act 1887*.

To ensure consistency, the Bill applies the same amendments, insofar as they relate to the language used to refer to the legal profession, to the *Supreme Court Act 1959* which governs the appointment of the Associate Judge.