

FACT SHEET

Sentencing Amendment (Assaults on Off-Duty Police) Bill 2018

The *Sentencing Amendment (Assaults on Off-duty Police) Bill 2018* (the Bill) amends section 16A of the *Sentencing Act 1997*.

At present, section 16A provides for mandatory minimum terms of six months' imprisonment for offenders convicted of offences committed in relation to an on duty police officer, where the police officer suffers serious bodily harm caused by, or arising from, the offence.

The Bill amends section 16A by extending the mandatory minimum sentencing provision to police officers who are not on duty when the offence is committed, providing the offence was committed solely or partly because the police officer was a police officer.

Courts will retain a discretion not to impose the mandatory minimum term of imprisonment where there are exceptional circumstances.