

CLAUSE NOTES

Public Interest Disclosures (Members of Parliament) Bill 2021

Clause 1: Short Title

The Short title will be the *Public Interest Disclosures (Members of Parliament) Act 2021*.

Clause 2: Commencement

The Amendment Act will commence on the day on which it receives Royal Assent.

Clause 3: Principal Act

The Principal Act to be amended is the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 2002*.

Clause 4: Section 7 amended (Persons to whom disclosures may be made)

This clause amends the Principal Act to allow disclosures in relation to a member of Parliament, or a staff member of a member of Parliament to be made to either the Ombudsman or Integrity Commission.

The Principal Act currently requires disclosures in relation to a member of Parliament, to be made to either the Speaker or President, and a disclosure in relation to a staff member of a member of Parliament to be made to the Ombudsman.

Clause 5: Section 15 amended (Certain further information also protected)

Amends section 15 of the Principal Act to remove reference to the President of the Legislative Council and the Speaker of the House of Assembly, consequential to the amendments to section 7.

Clause 6: Section 23 amended (Offence to reveal confidential information)

Amends section 23 of the Principal Act to remove reference to the President of the Legislative Council and the Speaker of the House of Assembly, consequential to the amendments to section 7.

Clause 7: Part 8 repealed

Repeals Part 8 of the Principal Act, which relates to disclosure to the President of the Legislative Council and the Speaker of the House of Assembly, consequential to the amendments to section 7.

Clause 8: Section 84 amended (Annual report by Ombudsman)

Amends section 84 of the Principal Act to remove reference to the President of the Legislative Council and the Speaker of the House of Assembly, consequential to the amendments to section 7.

Clause 9: Section 87 amended (Offence to make false disclosure)

Amends section 87 of the Principal Act to remove reference to the President of the Legislative Council and the Speaker of the House of Assembly, consequential to the amendments to section 7.

Clause 10: Section 88 amended (Protection of Ombudsman and officers)

Amends section 88 of the Principal Act to remove reference to the President of the Legislative Council and the Speaker of the House of Assembly, consequential to the amendments to section 7.

Clause 11: Repeal of Act

The *Public Interest Disclosures (Members of Parliament) Act 2021* will be repealed 365 days from the day on which all provisions commence.