

FACT SHEET

Police Offences Amendment (Begging Repeal) Bill 2024

The *Police Offences Amendment (Begging Repeal) Bill 2024* will amend the *Police Offences Act 1935* to ensure that begging is no longer an offence in Tasmania. The bill removes subsections (1) and (1AA) in Section 8 of the *Police Offences Act 1935*.

Section 8, subsection (1)(a) stipulates that a person shall not in a public place beg or expose wounds or deformities, or place himself or herself or otherwise act so as to induce, or attempt to induce, the giving of money or other financial advantage, or instigate or incite another person to do any of those things.

Under subsection (1AA) a person is liable for 5 penalty units or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months for an offence against subsection (1).

The abolition of the offence of begging is consistent with contemporary knowledge, social standards, and community expectations of our justice system.