

TASMANIA

**CORRECTIONS (VICTIMS OF CRIME) AMENDMENT BILL 2008**

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# CORRECTIONS (VICTIMS OF CRIME) AMENDMENT BILL 2008

*(Brought in by the Honourable William Michael Hodgman)*

## 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*.

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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.