
Second Reading Speech

Disability Rights, Inclusion and Safeguarding (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Bill 2025

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Mister President, I move that the Disability Rights, Inclusion and Safeguarding (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Bill 2025 be read a second time.

The purpose of this Bill is to amend certain Acts and Legislation to put in place transitional and consequential arrangements in relation to the *Disability Rights, Inclusion and Safeguarding Act 2024*.

I could not have been prouder to be a Member of the Legislative Council than I was last year when we came together in this House to pass the most significant piece of disability legislation our community has seen in over a decade. I sincerely wish to thank all Members again for their constructive collaboration.

This Bill is the next important step and will commence on the same day as the *Disability Rights, Inclusion and Safeguarding Act 2024*.

The Bill makes provision for transition from the *Disability Services Act 2011* which will be repealed upon commencement of the *Disability Rights, Inclusion and Safeguarding Act 2024*. This includes transitional provisions in relation to:

- Transition of approvals, determinations, delegations or directions made by the former Senior Practitioner to the new Senior Practitioner.
- Arrangements for Annual Reporting by the former Senior Practitioner.
- The preservation of approvals for restrictive practices so that they continue to be in force after commencement of the new Act on the same terms and conditions.
- The treatment of applications for approval of restrictive practices which are in progress on the day of commencement of the new Act.
- The treatment of any reviews by the Secretary, Tribunal and Magistrates Court which are in progress on the day of commencement of the new Act.
- The treatment of information provided under the former Act.

Part 3 through to Part 11 of the Bill provide for consequential amendments to other Legislation.

In most instances this is a change from *Disability Services Act 2011* to the *Disability Rights, Inclusion and Safeguarding Act 2024*.

Changes are also made where the interpretation of certain terms has been updated in the new legislation – for example Disability Service Provider.

Changes are made to the *Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2020* which previously referred to Restrictive Intervention within the meaning of the *Disability Services Act 2011* and is changed to the updated definition of Restrictive Practice included in the new Act.

Part 11 outlines changes to the *Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2020* which reflect the change in pathway for approval of Restrictive Practices to the new Senior Practitioner established in the *Disability Rights, Inclusion and Safeguarding Act 2024*. These changes also reflect the creation of the external Review function within TasCAT.

I commend the Bill to the House.