

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mrs Powell) — Order!
The member's time has expired. The time for making statements has now ended.

LEGISLATION REFORM (REPEALS No. 1) BILL

Statement of compatibility

Ms PIKE (Minister for Education) tabled following statement in accordance with Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act:

In accordance with section 28 of the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities, I make this statement of compatibility with respect to the Legislation Reform (Repeals No. 1) Bill 2007.

In my opinion, the Legislation Reform (Repeals No. 1) Bill 2007, as introduced to the Legislative Assembly, is compatible with the human rights protected by the Charter. I base my opinion on the reasons outlined in this statement.

Overview of bill

The bill gives effect to the Parliament's ongoing responsibility to identify acts that are redundant and to delete such legislation from the body of Victorian legislation. The specific acts to be repealed are:

- Ballaarat Free Library (Borrowing) Act 1938
- Heatherton Sanatorium Act 1944
- Victorian Relief Committee Act 1958
- Hairdressers Registration (Repeal) Act 1985
- State Relief Committee Act 1986
- Food (Amendment) Act 1991
- Health and Community Services (Further Amendment) Act 1993
- Food (Amendment) Act 1994
- Children and Young Persons (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 1994
- Local Government (Amendment) Act 1994
- Health Acts (Amendment) Act 1995
- Housing (Amendment) Act 1996
- Children and Young Persons (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 1996
- Local Government (Darebin City Council) Act 1998
- Local Government (Nillumbik Shire Council) Act 1998

Human rights issues

1. Human rights protected by the Charter that are relevant to the bill

The bill does not raise any human rights issues because it does not create or remove any legal rights or obligations. It simply repeals pieces of legislation that have completed their function and are without any continuing effect.

2. Consideration of reasonable limitations — section 7(2)

As the bill does not limit any human rights, it is not necessary to consider section 7(2) of the charter.

Conclusion

I consider that the bill is compatible with the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities because it does not raise any human rights issues.

JOHN BRUMBY MP
Premier

Second reading

Ms PIKE (Minister for Education) — I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

The bill before the house, the Legislation Reform (Repeals No. 1) Bill, repeals a number of spent and redundant acts.

It is a matter of good housekeeping for the Parliament to regularly remove redundant legislation from the Victorian statute book. Legislation that has no ongoing function serves no purpose, and should be deleted.

To make the process of identifying redundant legislation more efficient, the government has instituted a program under which each department is reviewing the legislation under its administration and reporting on which pieces of legislation can be removed. This program is consistent with the government's commitment to improve the efficiency of government made at the last state election in the policy statement 'Efficient government — Reform Legislation'.

Clearing the statute book of redundant acts on a programmed basis in this way will help to achieve the government's goal of reducing the regulatory burden on the Victorian community, because it will help make the task of consulting our legislation cleaner and less confusing.

This bill represents the first results of that review, and seeks to repeal redundant legislation falling within the following portfolios: community services, health, housing and local government.

The 15 acts to be repealed by the bill are as follows:

1. Ballaarat Free Library (Borrowing) Act 1938
2. Heatherton Sanatorium Act 1944