

1993

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH  
OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**ABORIGINAL LAND RIGHTS (NORTHERN TERRITORY)  
AMENDMENT BILL 1993**

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by authority of the  
Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs,  
the Honourable Robert Tickner MP)

## **ABORIGINAL LAND RIGHTS (NORTHERN TERRITORY) AMENDMENT BILL 1993**

### **OUTLINE**

The Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976 provides a mechanism whereby traditional Aboriginal land in the Northern Territory referred to in Schedule 1 to the Act may be granted to Aboriginal Land Trusts to hold title on behalf of Aboriginal people. Since the Act came into operation in 1977 a total of 54 separate parcels of land have been scheduled under the Act.

These amendments arise from an agreement facilitated by the Commonwealth Government and concluded between the Northern Territory Government, the Jawoyn Association and Zapopan NL. This agreement includes a declaration in which the Commonwealth undertakes to amend Schedule 1 of the Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976 to include Northern Territory Portions 4324 (Catfish Dreaming) and 860 (Eva Valley Pastoral Lease). A further agreement between the Central Land Council and the Northern Territory Power and Water Authority envisaged that the Commonwealth will amend Schedule 1 to include Northern Territory Portion 4236 (Kanturrpa - Kanttaji).

### **Amendments to Schedule 1 of the Act**

The amendments to Schedule 1 of the Principal Act are designed to include three new separate parcels of land within that schedule.

### **Amendment to Section 77C of the Act**

The amendment to section 77C of the Principal Act is consequential upon the amendment to Schedule 1.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Financial impact of the amendment is expected to be nil.

## **NOTES ON CLAUSES**

### **Clause 1 - Short title**

This clause would provide that the Act may be cited as the Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Amendment Act 1993

### **Clause 2 - Commencement**

This clause would provide that the Act will commence on the day on which it receives the Royal Assent.

### **Clause 3 - Amendment of Schedule 1**

This clause would amend Schedule 1 of the Principal Act by adding Part 4 to the existing Parts 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 1.

### **Clause 4 - Schedule 1**

This clause would add a new part 4 to Schedule 1 of the Principal Act comprising three parcels of land in the Northern Territory described as "Catfish Dreaming" "Eva Valley" and "Kanturrpa - Kanttaji".



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