

1994

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH  
OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**ABORIGINAL LAND RIGHTS (NORTHERN TERRITORY)  
AMENDMENT BILL 1994**

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 1994**

**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 57 separate parcels of land have been scheduled under the Act.

The amendment arises from a settlement agreement reached between the Northern Territory Government, Gambamora Industries Pty Ltd and the Central Land Council representing the Aboriginal claimants in the Wampana Land Claim. This agreement includes a clause in which the Northern Territory Government agrees to request the Commonwealth to effect the grant of an estate in fee simple in the land which was the subject of the Land Claim. The Land Claim comprises unalienated Crown land.

**Amendment to Schedule 1 of the Act**

The amendment to Schedule 1 of the Principal Act is designed to add a new parcel of land within that schedule.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Financial impact of the amendment is expected to be nil.

## NOTES ON CLAUSES

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

This clause provides that the Act may be cited as the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Amendment Act 1994*.

### **Clause 2 - Commencement**

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

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

This clause amends Schedule 1 of the Principal Act by adding a parcel of land described as the Wave Hill Locality to the existing Part 4 of Schedule 1 of the Principal Act.