

**DEFAMATION (LAW REFORM COMMISSION) AMENDMENT  
BILL, 1984**

No.           , 1984.

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**A BILL FOR**

An Act to amend the Defamation Act, 1974, to provide, in civil proceedings for defamation, defences in respect of reports, inquiries and proceedings of the Law Reform Commission.

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*Defamation (Law Reform Commission) Amendment 1984*

**BE** it enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

**5 Short title.**

1. This Act may be cited as the "Defamation (Law Reform Commission) Amendment Act, 1984".

**Amendment of Act No. 18, 1974.**

2. The Defamation Act, 1974, is amended in the manner set forth in Schedule 1.

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SCHEDULE 1.

(Sec. 2.)

## AMENDMENTS TO THE DEFAMATION ACT, 1974.

(1) Section 17BA—

15 After section 17B, insert:—

**Matters relating to the Law Reform Commission.**

20 17BA. (1) A report published pursuant to section 13 (6) of the Law Reform Commission Act, 1967, shall, for the purposes of this Act, be deemed to have been published under the authority of either House of Parliament.

(2) There is a defence of absolute privilege—

- 25 (a) for a publication in the course of the proceedings of, or in the course of an inquiry held by, the Law Reform Commission under the Law Reform Commission Act, 1967; and
- (b) for any other publication by the Law Reform Commission in connection with a reference to it under that Act.

*Defamation (Law Reform Commission) Amendment 1984*

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SCHEDULE 1—*continued.*

AMENDMENTS TO THE DEFAMATION ACT, 1974—*continued.*

(3) Subsection (2) does not apply to a report referred to in section 13 of the Law Reform Commission Act, 1967.

5 (2) (a) Schedule 2, clause 2 (13)—

Omit “or” where lastly occurring.

(b) Schedule 2, clause 2 (15)—

After clause 2 (14), insert:—

10 (15) proceedings in public of, or proceedings in public at an inquiry held by, the Law Reform Commission under the Law Reform Commission Act, 1967.

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BY AUTHORITY

D. WEST, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, NEW SOUTH WALES—1984





