

Crimes (Family Violence) (Amendment) Bill

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Clause 1 sets out the purpose of the Act.

Clause 2 provides that the Act comes into operation on a day to be proclaimed.

Clause 3 notes that the *Crimes (Family Violence) Act 1987* is referred to as the Principal Act.

Clause 4 inserts a new section 7A into the Principal Act.

Section 7A (1) provides that, where a complaint for an intervention order, or an application for the variation, revocation or extension of an order, is made by a member of the police force, any member of the police force may represent that member at the hearing of the complaint or application or of any subsequent appeal.

Section 7A (2) provides that a member of the police force who either makes a complaint or who represents a police complainant and who acts in good faith and in the normal course of duty, is not liable in any civil action arising out of the conduct of the hearing.

Clause 5 amends section 9 of the Principal Act to provide that if a warrant has been issued to arrest a person who is a defendant to a complaint, any member of the police force may arrest the person, even though the member does not have the warrant in his or her possession.

Clause 6 inserts a new section 14A into the Principal Act.

Section 14A directs that each party to proceedings under the Act is to bear his or her own costs, unless the court orders otherwise in exceptional circumstances.

