

**19/280 Policy approval for the Royal Commission Criminal Justice (Intermediaries) Legislation Amendment Bill 2019 (relates to 19/281 Evidence (Miscellaneous Provisions) Amendment Bill 2019)**

<b>Summary of Impacts</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Bill will make amendments to a number of pieces of criminal justice system legislation in the ACT.</li></ul>



*Key to impacts: Red – negative, Blue – neutral, Green – positive.*

**Social**

<b>Justice and rights</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Bill will help safeguard children's safety, health and wellbeing and will improve access to justice for victims of child sexual abuse.</li><li>Some proposed amendments will potentially engage human rights, in particular the right of an accused to a fair trial in sections 21 and 22 of the <i>Human Rights Act 2004</i>. The work of the Royal Commission in relation to intermediaries, and the detailed work in other jurisdictions (particularly the United Kingdom), provide an evidence base on which to establish that the scheme does not impose any relevant limit on the right to fair trial, or that any limitation on the right is demonstrably justified for the purposes of the section 28 of that Act. A full justification of any engagement of human rights will be included in the explanatory statement for the Bill.</li></ul>
---------------------------	---



**Economic**

<b>ACT Government Budget</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>\$5.812 million over four years has been allocated in the 2019-20 budget for implementing criminal law reform recommendations arising from the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, including establishing an intermediary scheme in the ACT.</li><li>The use of these funds represents good value for money for the Territory, noting the significant benefit of the scheme to its clients, as well as the justice system as a whole.</li></ul>
------------------------------	--



**Environmental**

Nil impact.