**Directorate: Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development**

**17/694 - Ombudsman Amendment Bill 2018 – combined pass**

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| **Summary of Impacts** |
| This is an expansion of the policy initiative to improve reporting and oversight of allegations of employee misconduct against children and young people, to include institutions providing spiritual care and pastoral activities. |

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

**Social**

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| **Justice and rights** | * The establishment of a reportable conduct scheme, and the inclusion of religious organisations, are both recommendations from the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (the Royal Commission).
* Justice and crime: the Reportable Conduct Scheme helps to safeguard all children by requiring organisations to report allegations or convictions of misconduct involving a child to the ACT Ombudsman, to ensure they are properly investigated and acted upon.
* Community and individual health: the Reportable Conduct Scheme contributes to appropriately and effectively responding to allegations of child abuse with positive impacts on community and individual health, as it helps prevent child abuse which is traumatic and often leads to adverse outcomes well into adulthood.
* Human rights: this Bill supports the positive protection of the right to life, protection from torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, and the protection of children and young people, consistent with sections 9, 10, and 11 of the Human Rights Act. The Bill places reasonable limits on the right to privacy and reputation.
* Gender; impacts on different age groups; disadvantaged and vulnerable: In its Inquiry, the Royal Commission heard that 63.6 per cent of survivors were male, that 93.8 per cent of survivors were abused by a male, and that more than half of survivors were between 10 and 14 when they were first abused. The Bill helps safeguard all children by requiring organisations to report allegations to ensure they are properly investigated and acted upon.
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**Economic**

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| **ACT Government Budget** | * The ACT Ombudsman will require additional resources to oversee an expanded scheme.  Funding for additional resources will be sought through a future budget process. This submission does not seek any appropriation which would have a budget impact.
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| **Productivity** | * No impact
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| **Investment** | * No impact
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| **Competition** | * No impact
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**Environmental**

Not applicable