

Relationships (Civil Partnerships) and Other Acts Amendment Act 2015

Explanatory notes for SL 2016 No. 14

made under the

Relationships (Civil Partnerships) and Other Acts Amendment Act 2015

General Outline

Short title

Relationships (Civil Partnerships) and Other Acts Amendment Act 2015

Authorising law

Section 2 of the *Relationships (Civil Partnerships) and Other Acts Amendment Act 2015*.

Policy objectives and the reasons for them

The policy objective of the Proclamation is to commence the *Relationships (Civil Partnerships) and Other Acts Amendment Act 2015* (the Amendment Act).

The policy objectives of the Amendment Act are to:

- (a) reinstate legislation that allows couples of any gender the choice to participate in civil partnership ceremonies before civil partnership notaries prior to registering their relationships as civil partnerships; and
- (b) provide recognition of electronic records and support the transition to a digitised Births, Deaths and Marriages registration service.

Achievement of policy objectives

The policy objective is achieved by fixing a commencement date of 22 March 2016 for the Amendment Act.

Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law

The Proclamation is consistent with the objectives of the Amendment Act.

Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation

This Proclamation is not inconsistent with the policy objectives of other legislation.

Benefits and costs of implementation

The costs of commencing the Amendment Act will be met within existing resources. The cost of the civil partnership notary registration scheme will be offset by the fee charged for registering as a civil partnership notary and an annual registration fee for civil partnership notaries.

Consistency with fundamental legislative principles

The Proclamation is consistent with fundamental legislative principles.

Consultation

Key Queensland marriage celebrant associations, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Intersex Legal Service Inc, the Australian Christian Lobby, Family Voice Australia, the Anti-Discrimination Commission Queensland, the Queensland Council for Civil Liberties, the Queensland Law Society and the Bar Association of Queensland were consulted during the development of the Amendment Act. The results of this consultation are detailed in the explanatory notes for the Amendment Act.