

# **Proclamation – *Victims’ Commissioner and Sexual Violence Review Board Act 2024***

Explanatory notes for SL 2024 No. 113

Made under the

*Victims’ Commissioner and Sexual Violence Review Board Act 2024*

## **General Outline**

### **Short Title**

Proclamation commencing certain provisions of the *Victims’ Commissioner and Sexual Violence Review Board Act 2024*

### **Authorising law**

Section 2 of the *Victims’ Commissioner and Sexual Violence Review Board Act 2024* (the Act).

### **Policy objectives and the reasons for them**

The objective of the Proclamation is to fix 29 July 2024 as the date to commence certain provisions of the Act stated in the Schedule to the Proclamation.

On 9 May 2024, the Act received assent. Section 2 of the Act provides for commencement on a day to be fixed by proclamation.

The main purposes of Act are to establish the Victims’ Commissioner to promote and protect the rights of victims of crime, to declare a charter of rights for affected victims and to establish the Sexual Violence Review Board (the Board) to identify and review systemic issues in relation to the reporting, investigation and prosecution of sexual offences. The Victims’ Commissioner and the Board will be supported by the Office of the Victims’ Commissioner.

The Proclamation will commence certain provisions of the Act, which will provide for-

- the establishment of the Victims’ Commissioner;
- the Victims’ Commissioner to exercise certain functions to consult with victims of crime; and provide advice to the responsible Minister on issues affecting victims and the promotion of victims’ rights; and

- the establishment of the Office of the Victims' Commissioner and recruitment of staff; and
- amendments to the *Integrity Act 2009* and *Public Sector Act 2022* to include the Victims' Commissioner in the statutory office holders' and public service entities provision and respective schedules.

The remaining provisions of the Act will commence by proclamation separately.

## **Achievement of policy objectives**

The policy objectives are achieved by fixing 29 July 2024 to commence certain provisions of the Act that provide for the-

- establishment of the Victims' Commissioner;
- Victims' Commissioner to perform certain functions to consult with victims and provide advice to the responsible Minister on issues affecting victims and the promotion of victims' rights; and
- establishment of the Office of the Victims' Commissioner.

## **Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law**

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

## **Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation**

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

## **Alternative ways of achieving policy objectives**

There are no alternative means to achieve the policy objectives.

## **Benefits and costs of implementation**

Commencing certain provisions of the Act will provide for the-

- establishment of the Victims' Commissioner;
- Victims' Commissioner to perform certain functions to consult with victims and provide advice to the Minister on issues affecting victims and the promotion of victims' rights; and
- establishment of the Office of the Victims' Commissioner.

The Queensland Government has allocated \$18 million over five years to support the establishment, and ongoing operation, of the Victims' Commissioner and the Board.

On 22 April 2024, the Queensland Government announced that the Office of the Victims' Commissioner will receive an additional \$2.97 million in funding to support its operations.

## **Consistency with fundamental legislative principles**

The Proclamation is consistent with the fundamental legislative principles.

## **Consultation**

As the Proclamation is machinery in nature, no external consultation has been undertaken in relation to the Proclamation.

As the Proclamation relates to the internal management of the public sector, no regulatory impact analysis is required under the *Queensland Government Better Regulation Policy*.