

Proclamation - Criminal Code (Decriminalising Sex Work) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024

Explanatory notes for SL 2024 No. 135

made under the

Criminal Code (Decriminalising Sex Work) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024

General Outline

Short title

Proclamation - *Criminal Code (Decriminalising Sex Work) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024*

Authorising law

Section 2 of the *Criminal Code (Decriminalising Sex Work) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024*

Policy objectives and the reasons for them

The objective of the Proclamation is to fix 2 August 2024 as the date to commence all provisions of the *Criminal Code (Decriminalising Sex Work) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024* (Amendment Act), other than section 17. Section 17 will commence immediately after the commencement of the *Criminal Code and Other Legislation (Double Jeopardy Exception and Subsequent Appeals) Amendment Act 2024*, section 27. The Amendment Act establishes a legal framework that will enact a safe, decriminalised sex work industry in Queensland.

The Amendment Act will repeal existing criminal offences relating to sex work; create new offences for the protection of sex workers and children; strengthen the protection of all sex workers from unfair discrimination; and prevent local governments from making local laws specifically about the regulation of sex work.

Achievement of policy objectives

The Proclamation commences the provisions of the *Criminal Code (Decriminalising Sex Work) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024* by:

- fixing 2 August 2024 for the commencement of the provisions other than section 17; and
- providing that section 17 commences immediately after the commencement of the *Criminal Code and Other Legislation (Double Jeopardy Exception and Subsequent Appeals) Amendment Act 2024*, section 27.

Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law

The Amendment Act is consistent with the policy objectives of the authorising law.

Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation

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

Benefits and costs of implementation

Commencing the Amendment Act establishes a legal framework that will enact a safe, decriminalised sex work industry in Queensland.

Any costs arising from commencement of the Amendment Act will be met from existing resources.

Consistency with fundamental legislative principles

The Proclamation is consistent with fundamental legislative principles.

Consultation

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