

# Explanatory Statement

## TOURISM NT AMENDMENT (INTEGRATION OF NTMEC) BILL 2025

### SERIAL NO. 42 LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY

#### **GENERAL OUTLINE**

This Bill amends the *Tourism NT Act 2012*.

The purpose of this Bill is to effect integration of the functions and operations of the Northern Territory Major Events Company Pty Ltd with Tourism NT, through the creation of Tourism and Events NT.

#### **NOTES ON CLAUSES**

##### **Clause 1. Short title**

This is a formal clause which provides for the citation of the Bill. The Bill when passed will be cited as the *Tourism NT Amendment (Integration of NTMEC) Act 2025*.

##### **Clause 2. Commencement**

This clause sets out how the amended Act will be commenced. In this case this will be done by notice given by the Administrator in the Northern Territory Government Gazette. If for any reason a provision of the Act does not commence before 11 October 2027, it commences on that day.”

##### **Clause 3. Act amended**

This clause provides that Part 2 amends the *Tourism NT Act 2012*.

##### **Clause 4. Long title replaced**

This clause provides for the long title of the *Tourism NT Act 2012* to be amended so as to reflect that the Act establishes Tourism and Events NT and for related purposes.

##### **Clause 5. Section 1 amended**

This clause provides for the *Tourism NT Act 2012* to be renamed as the *Tourism and Events NT Act 2012*.

##### **Clause 6. Section 3 amended**

Updates various language in the *Tourism NT Act 2012*, such as removing references to appointed commissioner, commissioner, Tourism NT and repealed Act. It introduces new definitions for Advisory Board, board member, ordinary member and Reserve Fund. Further, it changes references to the CEO of Tourism NT to the CEO of Tourism and Events NT.

##### **Clause 7. Section 5 amended**

This clause provides for the establishment of Tourism and Events NT.

##### **Clause 8. Section 6 replaced**

Sets out that Tourism and Events NT may also be known as Tourism and Events Northern Territory.

**Clause 9. Section 7 amended**

Amends section 7(c) to also include responsibility for hospitality, events and exhibitions in the Territory as a function of the entity.

This clause also provides for 2 new functions of Tourism and Events NT:

- to identify and attract events and exhibitions for the Territory that contribute to the benefit of the Territory; and
- to work independently or in collaboration with third parties to coordinate and deliver events and exhibitions.

**Clause 10. Section 8 amended**

Amends section 8 (2)(c) and grants new powers, allowing the entity to enter into contracts and other such agreements; purchase, lease or hire plant, machinery or equipment (for the purpose of performing its functions); sell and distribute tickets for events and exhibitions; accept and refund money in relation to ticket sales. Additionally, with the Treasurer's approval and subject to the *Financial Management Act 1995*, grant guarantees and indemnities; with the Treasurer's approval, borrow, lend, raise or invest money and form or participate in the formation of an incorporated body, partnership or trust.

**Clause 11. Section 10, Part 2, Division 3 heading and section 11 replaced**

Replaces section 10 of the current act to allow Tourism and Events to delegate any of its power and functions to an Agency CEO, a member of staff of Tourism and Events NT, or another public sector employee (such as a Department of Tourism and Hospitality staff member).

This clause also replaces section 11 to vest power of Tourism and Events NT in the CEO. Presently the power of Tourism NT is vested in the Board of Commissioners as a management board.

**Clause 13. Section 14 replaced**

This replaces the previous section 14 to replace the Board of Commissioners with new a Tourism and Events Advisory Board, which is of an advisory only nature with recommendations being non-binding on the Minister. The advisory board will comprise the CEO plus at least 6 others appointed by the Minister and the Chair is appointed by the Minister in writing (the same arrangements as for the Board of Commissioners this new board is replacing).

**Clause 18. Sections 27A and 27B inserted**

Section 27A is new and notes that Tourism and Events NT may engage consultants and advisors for the purpose of performing its functions.

Section 27B is new and deals with the establishment and operation of a reserve fund. The reserve fund is to be maintained in an operating account and will manage receipts from ticket sales and refunds as required. The fund allows for receipts from ticket sales to be carried over into a following financial year and used only for prescribed purposes such as cost and expenses incurred with events, refunds, or for exercise of the powers or functions of the entity. It is designed to combat situations where an event (e.g. Supercars) is held close to the end of a financial year for which payments are required in the following year.

**Clause 20. Section 30 replaced**

Section 30 is an update to existing provisions in the *Tourism NT Act 2012* to align with more contemporary approaches contained in other legislation. It sets out the maximum penalty at 200 penalty units or imprisonment for 2 years.

**Clause 22. Part 5 inserted**

New Part 5 sets out transitional matters to effect continuation of Tourism NT as Tourism and Events NT, including how instruments, contracts, other documents and matters will be novated; continuation of the CEO; that persons who were commissioners of Tourism NT will cease; and provides transitional regulation-making powers to facilitate doing things necessary to give effect to Northern Territory Major Events Company Pty Ltd's integration with Tourism and Events NT. New section 37 will be repealed after one year, by which time it is intended the Northern Territory Major Events Company Pty Ltd will have been deregistered.