

Serial 51  
Sentencing Amendment (Murder) Bill 2026  
Ms Boothby

A Bill for an Act to amend the *Sentencing Act 1995*



**NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA**

**SENTENCING AMENDMENT (MURDER) ACT 2026**

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**Act No. [ ] of 2026**

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# NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

Act No. [ ] of 2026

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An Act to amend the *Sentencing Act 1995*

[Assented to [ ] 2026]  
[Introduced [ ] 2026]

The Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory enacts as follows:

10

## **1 Short title**

This Act may be cited as the *Sentencing Amendment (Murder) Act 2026*.

## **2 Commencement**

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This Act commences on the day after the day on which the Administrator's assent to this Act is declared.

## **3 Act amended**

This Act amends the *Sentencing Act 1995*.

## **4 Section 53A amended (Non-parole periods for offence of murder)**

20

(1) Section 53A(3)(f)

*omit*

homicide.

*insert*

homicide;

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(2) After section 53A(3)(f)

*insert*

(g) the victim was, at the time of the act or omission that caused the victim's death, or had previously been:

5 (i) in an intimate personal relationship (as defined in section 11 of the *Domestic and Family Violence Act 2007*) with the offender; or

(ii) the spouse or de facto partner of the offender.

(3) Section 53A(6), after "subsection (1)(a)"

10 *insert*

or the non-parole period of 25 years required by the circumstances specified in subsection (3)(g)

## **5 Part 12, Division 16 inserted**

After section 157

15 *insert*

### **Division 16 Transitional matters for Sentencing Amendment (Murder) Act 2026**

#### **158 Application of amendments to section 53A**

20 (1) The amendments to section 53A by the *Sentencing Amendment (Murder) Act 2026* do not apply to an offence committed before the commencement of section 4 of that Act.

(2) For subsection (1), if any of the conduct constituting an offence occurred before the commencement, the offence is taken to have been committed before the commencement.

#### **25 6 Repeal of Act**

This Act is repealed on the day after it commences.