

# Misuse of Drugs Amendment Bill 2017

SERIAL NO. 31

## STATEMENT OF COMPATIBILITY WITH HUMAN RIGHTS

This Bill is compatible with human rights as defined by section 3 of the *Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Act 2011* (Cth).

### Overview of the Bill

The Misuse of Drugs Amendment Bill 2017 amends the *Misuse of Drugs Act* to ensure it is consistent with the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code (the Food Standard), to enable Territorians to legally supply and possess, as an additional food source: low THC cannabis seeds that contain no more than 5mg/kg THC; hemp seed oil that contains less than 10mg/kg of THC; a beverage derived from seeds of low THC Cannabis sativa if the beverage contains no more than 0.2mg/kg of THC; and any other food product extracted or derived from seeds of low THC Cannabis sativa that contains no more than 5mg/kg of THC.

On 28 April 2017, Australian Health Ministers at the Australian and New Zealand Ministerial Forum on Food Regulation supported the variation of standards in the Food Standard to allow low THC Cannabis sativa seeds to be sold as food. The Food Standard applies in the NT through the *Food Act*. The amendments to the Food Standard were published in the Commonwealth of Australia Gazette No. FSC 111 on 11 May 2017 and will come into effect on 12 November 2017.

### Human rights implications

This Bill does not engage any applicable human rights.

### Conclusion

This Bill is compatible with human rights as it does not raise any human rights issues.