

Proclamation—Child Protection Reform and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2022

Explanatory notes for SL 2022 No. 162

made under the

Child Protection Reform and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2022

General Outline

Short title

Proclamation to commence certain provisions of the *Child Protection Reform and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2022*

Authorising law

Section 2 of the *Child Protection Reform and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2022*

Policy objectives and the reasons for them

The *Child Protection Reform and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2022* (Amendment Act) received assent on 20 May 2022. Section 2 of the Amendment Act provides that certain provisions are to commence on a day to be fixed by proclamation.

The objective of the proclamation is to commence stated provisions which amend the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000* (WWC Act) on 2 December 2022.

The stated provisions of the Amendment Act will:

- facilitate Queensland’s participation in the Working with Children Check National Reference System (WWCC NRS) — a national database which enables jurisdictions to identify persons who have been deemed ineligible to work with children in another State or Territory;
- enable the chief executive (working with children) to enter key decisions on the WWCC NRS, give information to an interstate screening unit or the Australian Crime Commission (ACC) and request information from an interstate screening unit regarding blue card assessment and monitoring; and
- enable the chief executive (working with children) to have regard to adverse decisions (persons who have been deemed ineligible to work with children in

another State or Territory) in other jurisdictions as part of a blue card assessment.

Achievement of policy objectives

The policy objectives are achieved by fixing the commencement date of 2 December 2022.

Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law

The Proclamation is consistent with the policy objectives of the authorising law.

Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation

The Proclamation is not inconsistent with any policy objective of any other legislation.

Benefits and costs of implementation

The Proclamation will commence amendments to the WWC Act which provide important safeguards for the blue card system, by enabling the chief executive to consider adverse outcomes from other jurisdictions as part of a blue card assessment and facilitating information sharing between jurisdictions in relation to individuals who have been found ineligible to work with children.

Any costs associated with the Proclamation will be met by existing resources.

Consistency with fundamental legislative principles

The Proclamation does not conflict with fundamental legislative principles as set out in section 4 of the *Legislative Standards Act 1992*.

Consultation

Consultation was undertaken with a range of stakeholders during the development of the Amendment Act.

No other consultation occurred on the Proclamation as it is machinery in nature.

Material will be published on the website of Blue Card Services to advise stakeholders of the commencement date.

A self-assessment by the Department of Justice and Attorney-General determined that no Regulatory Impact Analysis is required as the regulatory proposal is excluded under category (g) of the *Queensland Government Guide to Better Regulation* – regulatory proposals that are of a machinery nature.