



Western Australia

## **Bank of Western Australia Act 1995**



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Western Australia

## **Bank of Western Australia Act 1995**

**An Act to provide for the full or partial privatisation of Bank of Western Australia Ltd, to make provisions applicable to the bank after privatisation, to make provisions relating to the transfer of the bank's business and the conduct of an ongoing banking business, to amend the *Bank of Western Australia Act 1990* and certain other Acts<sup>1</sup>, and for related purposes.**

*[Long title amended: No. 14 of 2012 s. 4.]*

## **Part 1 — Preliminary**

### **1. Short title**

This Act may be cited as the *Bank of Western Australia Act 1995*.

### **2. Commencement**

- (1) The long title, this Part, Part 2 (except section 11) and section 43(1) and (2) come into operation on the day on which this Act receives the Royal Assent.
- (2) Section 11 comes into operation on such day as is fixed by proclamation.
- (3) The other provisions of this Act come into operation on the day of privatisation.

### **3. Terms used**

In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears —

*day of privatisation* means the day notified by the Treasurer under section 9;

*privatisation* means full or partial privatisation as defined in section 4;

*public authority* means a body corporate that —

- (a) is created by a written law; and
- (b) is an agent of the Crown; and
- (c) has power to acquire shares in a company.

### **4. Terms used: *full privatisation, partial privatisation***

- (1) For the purposes of this Act full privatisation occurs if, in accordance with a privatisation order under section 7 —
  - (a) all of the shares in Bank of Western Australia Ltd become, after the day of privatisation, owned by persons other than the State; or

- (b) the business that is conducted by Bank of Western Australia Ltd becomes, after the day of privatisation, owned by one or more corporations all of the shares in which are held by persons other than the State.
- (2) For the purposes of this Act partial privatisation occurs if, in accordance with a privatisation order under section 7 —
  - (a) some of the shares in Bank of Western Australia Ltd continue, after the day of privatisation, to be owned by the State; or
  - (b) the business that is conducted by Bank of Western Australia Ltd becomes, after the day of privatisation, owned by one or more corporations some of the shares in which are held by the State.
- (3) References in subsections (1) and (2) to the State do not include a public authority that acquires shares in the Bank on or after the day of privatisation.

## **Part 2 — Privatisation of the Bank**

### **5. Terms used**

In this Part, unless the contrary intention appears —

**Bank** means Bank of Western Australia Ltd referred to in section 22 of the existing Act;

**existing Act** means the *Bank of Western Australia Act 1990*<sup>2</sup>;

**private placement** means the sale of shares in the Bank in a way that would not require R & I Holdings to lodge a notice under section 1043B of the Corporations Law (assuming it were not exempt from the requirements of Chapter 7 of that Law);

**privatisation order** means an order, and any amendment to it, made under section 7;

**public float** means the sale of shares in the Bank to the public in a way that would require R & I Holdings to lodge a notice under section 1043B of the Corporations Law (assuming it were not exempt from the requirements of Chapter 7 of that Law);

**R & I Holdings** means the body corporate referred to in section 6 of the existing Act;

**voting share** has the meaning given by section 9 of the Corporations Law.

### **6. Bank may be privatised**

- (1) The Bank may be privatised in accordance with this Part.
- (2) This Part is to have effect despite section 26(4) or (5) of the existing Act.

### **7. Method of privatisation**

- (1) The Treasurer may by order determine that the Bank is to be fully privatised or partially privatised —
  - (a) by public float; or
  - (b) by private placement; or

(c) by some other means,

or by any combination of the methods referred to in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c).

- (2) A privatisation order may contain such incidental or supplementary provisions as the Treasurer thinks fit.
- (3) The Treasurer may at any time before the day of privatisation amend or revoke a privatisation order.
- (4) A privatisation order and any amendment or revocation is to be published in the *Gazette*.

**8. State's shareholding in partial privatisation**

A privatisation order that provides for the partial privatisation of the Bank is to specify the shareholding that is to be retained or held by the State and that is to vest in the Treasurer under section 41.

**9. Day of privatisation**

- (1) The Treasurer is to notify the day of privatisation in the *Gazette*.
- (2) The Treasurer may change the day notified under subsection (1) to a later day.
- (3) If the day is changed the Treasurer is to notify the change in the *Gazette*.
- (4) Property in shares in the Bank that passes from R & I Holdings to any person on the day of privatisation is to be taken to pass at the beginning of the day of privatisation.

**10. Powers of R & I Holdings and the Bank for purposes of privatisation**

- (1) R & I Holdings and the Bank are to do all things necessary or convenient to be done in order to comply with a privatisation order.

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- (2) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1) R & I Holdings may —
- (a) enter into agreements including underwriting agreements;
  - (b) issue or cause the issue of a prospectus or other document containing information for potential purchasers of shares in the Bank;
  - (c) require the Bank to make application to the Australian Stock Exchange Limited for admission to the Official List of the Exchange and for official quotation of the shares in the Bank;
  - (d) require the Bank to issue to it further shares pursuant to section 26 of the existing Act in such number and on such terms as to payment as may be agreed between R & I Holdings and the Bank or in the absence of agreement as may be determined by the Treasurer;
  - (e) require the Bank to do anything else necessary or convenient to enable R & I Holdings to comply with a privatisation order.
- (3) The Bank is to comply with any requirement made under subsection (2).

[11. Deleted: No. 8 of 2009 s. 24.]

**12. R & I Holdings and the Bank to consult**

R & I Holdings and the board of directors of the Bank must consult fully in relation to all matters necessary or convenient to give effect to a privatisation order.

**13. Proceeds of privatisation, application of**

- (1) The proceeds of privatisation of the Bank are to be applied by R & I Holdings —
- (a) first, in meeting the expenses of privatisation as determined by the Treasurer; and

- (b) secondly, in the payment to Bank of Western Australia Ltd of any amount determined by the Treasurer; and
  - (c) thirdly, in the repayment of the liabilities of R & I Holdings.
- (2) So much of the proceeds as is not applied under subsection (1) is to be paid into the Consolidated Account.

*[Section 13 amended: No. 77 of 2006 s. 4.]*

**14. Disclosure of information**

- (1) A disclosure of information made in accordance with this section for the purposes of facilitating the privatisation of the Bank is not to be regarded —
- (a) as a breach of contract or confidence or otherwise as a civil wrong; or
  - (b) as a contravention of section 232 of the Corporations Law.
- (2) Subsection (1) applies to a disclosure of information made by the Government, R & I Holdings or the Bank or by a person acting with the authority of the Government, R & I Holdings or the Bank but does not apply to any other person to whom the information is given.
- (3) Subsection (1) applies to confidential information or information not publicly known concerning the affairs of the Bank or of any subsidiary of the Bank or of any customer of the Bank or of any subsidiary.
- (4) This section has effect despite section 41 of the existing Act.
- (5) In subsection (3) **Bank**, **subsidiary** and **customer** have the same meanings as they have in section 41 of the existing Act.

**15. Auditor General may disclose information**

Despite section 46(2) of the *Auditor General Act 2006*, the Auditor General may, for the purpose of facilitating the

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privatisation of the Bank, disclose to any person, or provide any person with access to, information in his or her possession or under his or her control.

*[Section 15 amended: No. 77 of 2006 Sch. 1 cl. 14.]*

**16. Disclosing information obtained under s. 14 or 15, offence**

A person who under section 14 or 15 —

- (a) obtains information in connection with the privatisation of the Bank; and
- (b) has agreed or is otherwise under a duty not to disclose the information to others,

commits an offence if the person breaches the agreement or the duty without lawful excuse.

Penalty: \$100 000.

**17. R & I Holdings, Bank etc., functions of**

In addition to their functions and powers under the existing Act, R & I Holdings, the Bank and the board of directors of the Bank —

- (a) have the respective functions conferred on them by this Part; and
- (b) may do, in the State or elsewhere, all things necessary or convenient to be done for or in connection with the performance of those functions.

**18. Stamp duty exemption**

If the Bank is privatised either solely by public float or partly by public float and partly by private placement, stamp duty under the *Stamp Act 1921* is not chargeable on any sale and transfer of shares in the Bank by R & I Holdings by way of such public float or private placement.

## Part 3 — Provisions applicable to Bank after privatisation

### Division 1 — Preliminary

#### 19. Terms used

In this Part, unless the contrary intention appears —

**1990 Act** means the *Bank of Western Australia Act 1990*<sup>2</sup>;

**Bank** means the public company registered under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Commonwealth) by the name “Bank of Western Australia Ltd”;

**subsidiary** means a company that is a subsidiary of the Bank as determined in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* of the Commonwealth.

[Section 19 amended: No. 10 of 2001 s. 17; No. 14 of 2012 s. 5; No. 14 of 2025 s. 11(2).]

### Division 2 — Guarantee

#### 20. Guarantee by Treasurer for Bank

- (1) Subject to subsections (2) and (4), the payment of the financial obligations of the Bank is guaranteed by the Treasurer.
- (2) The payment of money due —
  - (a) by the Bank in respect of capital stock issued under section 29A of the *Rural and Industries Bank Act 1944*<sup>3</sup>;  
or
  - (b) by a subsidiary of the Bank; or
  - (c) by the Bank in respect of any excluded debt,is not guaranteed under subsection (1).
- (3) In subsection (2)(c) **excluded debt** means any financial obligation incurred by Bank of Western Australia Ltd before the

day of privatisation on terms which provide that a Treasurer's guarantee does not apply to the financial obligation.

- (4) On and from the day of privatisation the payment of the financial obligations of the Bank is guaranteed under subsection (1) to the extent set out in subsections (5) and (6) and to that extent only.
- (5) On and from the day of privatisation until the fifth anniversary of that day, the payment of money standing to the credit of any account with the Bank that was in existence as an account with Bank of Western Australia Ltd at the close of business on the day preceding the day of privatisation, other than a term deposit, continues to be guaranteed under subsection (1) to the extent of the amount calculated by deducting from the amount that was standing to the credit of the account at the close of business on the day preceding the day of privatisation the aggregate of all amounts debited to the account on or after the day of privatisation.
- (6) On and from the day of privatisation the payment of the financial obligations of the Bank (including contingent liabilities) continues to be guaranteed under subsection (1) to the extent that those obligations arise from —
  - (a) any term deposit made with Bank of Western Australia Ltd, or other term liability incurred by Bank of Western Australia Ltd, before the day of privatisation; or
  - (b) securities issued by Bank of Western Australia Ltd before the day of privatisation; or
  - (c) a deed, agreement, instrument, undertaking or other document entered into, given or issued by Bank of Western Australia Ltd before the day of privatisation; or
  - (d) any other event involving Bank of Western Australia Ltd which occurred, or arrangements which were entered into by that Bank, before the day of privatisation, other than an account to which subsection (5) applies.

- (7) References in subsection (6)(a), (b), (c) and (d) to the Bank include the Bank as constituted under the *Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia Act 1987*<sup>4</sup> and the *Rural and Industries Bank Act 1944*<sup>3</sup>.
- (8) Any liability of the Treasurer arising from the guarantee in subsection (1) is to be met out of the Consolidated Account which is appropriated to the necessary extent.
- [Section 20 amended: No. 77 of 2006 s. 4.]*

## **21. Charges for guarantee**

- (1) The Treasurer may from time to time, after consultation with the board of directors of the Bank, fix charges to be paid by the Bank to the Treasurer for the benefit of the Consolidated Account in respect of the guarantee under section 20.
- (2) The Treasurer may agree with the Bank that a charge fixed under subsection (1) will not be increased under that subsection for a stipulated period, and the exercise of the power in that subsection is subject to any such agreement.
- (3) Payments by the Bank to the Treasurer in respect of any such charges are required to be made at such times, and in such instalments, as the Treasurer determines.
- [Section 21 amended: No. 77 of 2006 s. 4.]*

## **22. Treasurer may require Bank to give information**

- (1) The Treasurer may request the Bank to give prescribed information to the Treasurer, including prescribed information by way of periodical returns at prescribed times, to enable the Treasurer to be informed of or assess the extent of the liability, or risk of or exposure to liability, from time to time existing under section 20.

- (2) The power in subsection (1) ceases to be exercisable on —
  - (a) the day on which the guarantee under section 20(1) no longer applies to securities, term deposits or term borrowings; or
  - (b) the fifth anniversary of the day of privatisation, whichever is the later.
- (3) A request under subsection (1) must —
  - (a) be made by written notice given to the Bank; and
  - (b) specify the time before which the information is to be given.
- (4) The Bank must comply with any request under subsection (1).
- (5) The Bank is to provide information under subsection (1) in a manner that does not disclose the identity and affairs of any person or might enable the identity and affairs of any person to be ascertained.

*[Division 3 (s. 23-26A) deleted: No. 14 of 2025 s. 11(3).]*

#### **Division 4 — Use of names**

##### **26. Names Bank etc. cannot use**

- (1) The Bank or a subsidiary of the Bank must not use any name in connection with its business which suggests that it is associated with the Government.
- (2) The use of the name “Bank of Western Australia Ltd” or “BankWest” does not contravene subsection (1).

##### **27. Use of former name and derivatives of it by others**

- (1) A person must not —
  - (a) use the name “The Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia” or the name “R & I Bank of Western Australia Ltd”; or

- (b) use any company, corporate, business, trading or other name substantially similar to either of the names referred to in paragraph (a); or
  - (c) use the prefix “R & I” as part of any bank description without the approval in writing of the Minister.
- (2) In subsection (1)(c) **bank description** means any company, corporate, business, trading or other name, or other trade description or symbol, used in connection with banking business or the provision of financial services.
- (3) The prohibition in subsection (1) extends to the Crown.
- (4) The use of names and descriptions, as governed by this section, is declared to be an excluded matter for the purposes of section 5F of the *Corporations Act 2001* of the Commonwealth in relation to the whole of the Corporations legislation to which Part 1.1A of that Act applies.

*[Section 27 amended: No. 10 of 2001 s. 20.]*

[28. *Omitted under the Reprints Act 1984 s. 7(4)(e)*<sup>6</sup>.]

#### **Division 5 — Enforcement of Divisions 3 and 4**

#### **29. Enforcement of s. 26 and 27 only by injunction**

The obligations created by sections 26 and 27 are enforceable under section 30 and not otherwise.

*[Section 29 amended: No. 14 of 2025 s. 11(4).]*

#### **30. Supreme Court’s powers for enforcement of s. 26 and 27**

- (1) The Supreme Court may, on the application of the Minister, grant an injunction in such terms as the Court thinks fit where the Court is satisfied that the Bank or any person —
- (a) has done or omitted to do or is proposing or attempting to do or omit to do any thing that amounts to, or would amount to, a breach of section 26 or 27; or

- (b) is involved in a breach of section 26 or 27.
- (2) An interim or interlocutory injunction may be granted before final determination of an application.
- (3) If the Minister applies to the Court for an injunction under this section, the Court is not to require the Minister, as a condition of granting an interim injunction, to give an undertaking as to damages.
- (4) A reference in subsection (1) to a person being involved in a breach is a reference to a person who —
- (a) has aided, abetted, counselled or procured the breach; or
  - (b) has induced the breach, whether by threats or promises or otherwise; or
  - (c) has been in any way, directly or indirectly, knowingly concerned in, or party to, the breach; or
  - (d) has conspired with others to effect the breach; or
  - (e) has attempted to do any act of a kind referred to in paragraph (a), (b), (c) or (d).

*[Section 30 amended: No. 14 of 2025 s. 11(5).]*

### **Division 6 — Continuation of certain provisions**

#### **31. Terms used**

In this Division —

**1987 Act** means the *Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia Act 1987*<sup>4</sup>;

**appointed day** has the meaning given by section 4 of the 1990 Act;

**former Bank** means the Bank as defined in section 3 of the 1987 Act.

**32. Purpose of this Division**

This Division re-enacts certain provisions of Schedule 2 to the 1990 Act<sup>7</sup>, relating to the transition from the former Bank to Bank of Western Australia Ltd, so that they will continue in force despite the repeal of that Schedule.

**33. Evidentiary provisions**

- (1) Documentary or other evidence which would have been admissible for or against the interests of the former Bank if the 1990 Act had not been enacted is admissible for or against the interests of the Bank.
- (2) Sections 89 to 96 (inclusive) of the *Evidence Act 1906* continue to apply with respect to the banker's books of the former Bank and to entries made in those banker's books before the appointed day.
- (3) In subsection (2) *banker's books* has the same meaning as in the *Evidence Act 1906*.

**34. Administration etc. of capital stock, debentures and inscribed stock**

- (1) The provisions of the repealed Acts relating to —
  - (a) the administration of the capital stock, debentures and inscribed stock issued under section 29A or 30 of the *Rural and Industries Bank Act 1944*<sup>3</sup>; and
  - (b) the determination of rights and obligations in respect of the same,

that applied to such capital stock, debentures and inscribed stock immediately before the appointed day are to be taken to be in force, with all necessary changes, so far as is necessary for the purposes referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b), but for no other purpose.

- (2) In subsection (1) the *repealed Acts* means —
- (a) the 1987 Act and the Act repealed by section 36 of that Act;
  - (b) the *Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia Debentures and Inscribed Stock Regulations 1964*;
  - (c) the *Rural and Industries Bank (Capital Stock) Regulations 1986*.
- (3) The Governor may, by further regulations, amend or repeal the regulations referred to in subsection (2).

**35. Reference in document to officer of former Bank, effect of**

A reference in any other Act, in any instrument made under any Act or in any instrument or document of any kind to the holder for the time being of a particular office of the former Bank is to be read, if there is no equivalent office of the Bank, as a reference to the managing director of the Bank.

**36. Immunity etc. to continue**

Despite the repeal of the 1987 Act, where the former Bank had the benefit of any immunity or privilege in respect of an act, matter or thing done or omitted before the appointed day, that immunity or privilege continues in that respect for the benefit of the Bank.

**37. Former Bank to complete necessary transactions**

- (1) Despite the repeal of the 1987 Act the former Bank —
- (a) continues as if there had been no such repeal, for the purpose of performing the function described in subsection (2); and
  - (b) has all such powers as are necessary or convenient for that purpose.

- (2) Where any asset, right or liability to which Schedule 2 to the 1990 Act applied could not be properly vested in or succeeded to by Bank of Western Australia Ltd by the operation of that Act (whether because the matter was governed otherwise than by the law of the State, or for any other reason) and the asset, right or liability was not vested in or succeeded to by Bank of Western Australia Ltd before the repeal of that Schedule the former Bank —
- (a) is to be taken to continue to hold or be liable for that asset, right or liability until the same is effectively vested in or succeeded to by the Bank; and
  - (b) is to take all practicable steps for the purpose of securing that such asset, right or liability is effectively vested in or succeeded to by the Bank.
- (3) The former Bank is to perform the function described in subsection (2)(b) through the managing director of the Bank.
- (4) The performance of the functions of the former Bank under this section does not constitute or continue the former Bank as a bank and is not to be construed as the conduct of State banking or banking business by the former Bank.

### **Division 7 — Miscellaneous**

#### **38. Reference in document to former name, effect of**

A reference in —

- (a) any Act or any other instrument made under any Act; or
- (b) a document of any kind,

to the R & I Bank of Western Australia Ltd or to The Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia or a predecessor of that Bank is to be construed as if it had been amended to be, or to include, a reference to the name of the Bank, except where the context requires otherwise.

**39. Non-compliance by Bank of Western Australia Ltd with certain provisions, effect of**

A failure by Bank of Western Australia Ltd to comply with section 22(2)(b) or 30 or clause 2, 3 or 4 of Schedule 1<sup>8</sup> of the 1990 Act does not affect the validity or enforceability of any contract, arrangement or other transaction, and a person dealing with the Bank on any matter is not, and has never been, bound to inquire whether any such provision has been complied with in respect of that matter.

## **Part 4 — State's shareholding in Bank on partial privatisation**

### **40. Interpretation of s. 41**

A reference to the Bank —

- (a) where it first occurs in section 41(1) is to Bank of Western Australia Ltd; and
- (b) elsewhere in that section is to the Bank as defined in section 19.

### **41. State's shareholding, Treasurer's functions as to**

- (1) If the Bank is partially privatised the shareholding in the Bank specified under section 8 vests in the Treasurer by force of this section on the day of privatisation.
- (2) For the purpose of holding shares in the Bank under this section the Treasurer is a corporation sole with perpetual succession and an official seal.
- (3) The Treasurer may exercise any right, power or option attached to ownership of the shares in the Bank vested in him or her.
- (4) The Treasurer must not transfer or otherwise dispose of —
  - (a) the shares that vest in the Treasurer under subsection (1); or
  - (b) any further shares in the Bank that are taken up under subsection (3); or
  - (c) any interest in the shares referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b).

**Part 5A — Provisions relating to transfer of BWA business and conduct of Bankwest business**

*[Heading inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]*

**Division 1 — Preliminary**

*[Heading inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]*

**42A. Terms used**

In this Part —

**Bankwest business** means the banking business carried on using the Bankwest name in accordance with section 42D(1);

**Bankwest name** means —

- (a) the name “Bankwest”; or
- (b) any other name used by Bank of Western Australia Ltd in the conduct of the BWA business before the transfer day; or
- (c) a name that is substantially similar to, or a derivative of, a name referred to in paragraph (a) or (b);

**Bankwest owner** means the person who, from time to time, owns the Bankwest business;

**BWA business** means the banking business conducted by Bank of Western Australia Ltd ACN 050 494 454;

**CBA** means Commonwealth Bank of Australia ACN 123 123 124;

**head office**, of the Bankwest business, means the place where day-to-day management of that business is carried out;

**managing officer**, of the Bankwest business, means the person responsible for the day-to-day management of that business;

**point of presence** means premises used principally for the conduct of the Bankwest business with members of the public, and includes premises described as a Bankwest branch, Bankwest store or Bankwest business centre, but does not include the following —

- (a) an automatic teller machine;
- (b) premises described as a neighbourhood bank;
- (c) premises at which that business is conducted pursuant to an agency agreement;

***points of presence threshold*** means 88 points of presence;

***relevant period*** means the period of 5 years after the transfer day;

***transfer day*** means the day on which the certificate of transfer relating to the transfer of the BWA business to CBA comes into force under the *Financial Sector (Business Transfer and Group Restructure) Act 1999* (Commonwealth) Part 3 Division 3.

[Section 42A inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]

**42B. Transfer of BWA business to CBA not prevented**

Nothing in this Act prevents the transfer of the BWA business to CBA under the *Financial Sector (Business Transfer and Group Restructure) Act 1999* (Commonwealth).

[Section 42B inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]

**42C. Liability of owners of Bankwest business if 2 or more owners**

If, at a particular time, the Bankwest business is owned by 2 or more persons, the obligations imposed by this Part on the Bankwest owner are imposed on each of those persons jointly and severally and are enforceable accordingly.

[Section 42C inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]

**Division 2 — Long term obligations**

[Heading inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]

**42D. CBA to carry on banking business using Bankwest name**

- (1) CBA must, on and after the transfer day, carry on in Western Australia a banking business using the Bankwest name.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not prevent the transfer of the Bankwest business to another person.
- (3) If the Bankwest business is transferred to another person, the obligation imposed by subsection (1) becomes an obligation of the Bankwest owner.

*[Section 42D inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]*

**42E. Type and scale of Bankwest business**

The Bankwest owner must ensure that the Bankwest business is of substantially the same type as, and is conducted on a scale not significantly less than, the BWA business in Western Australia as at 30 June 2011.

*[Section 42E inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]*

**42F. Head office of Bankwest business**

The Bankwest owner must ensure that the head office of the Bankwest business is located in Western Australia.

*[Section 42F inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]*

**42G. Managing officer of Bankwest business**

The Bankwest owner must ensure that the managing officer of the Bankwest business, while holding office, is ordinarily resident in Western Australia.

*[Section 42G inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]*

**42H. Use of certain names prohibited**

- (1) The Bankwest owner must not use any name in connection with the Bankwest business that suggests it is associated with the Government.

- (2) The use of the Bankwest name does not contravene subsection (1).

*[Section 42H inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]*

**42I. Records of Bankwest business**

The Bankwest owner must ensure that sufficient records of the Bankwest business are kept in Western Australia to enable the Bankwest owner to comply with any notice given to it under section 42O(2).

*[Section 42I inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]*

**Division 3 — Obligations relating to 5 year period after transfer day**

*[Heading inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]*

**42J. Minimum points of presence required**

- (1) The Bankwest owner must ensure that, at all times during the relevant period, the number of points of presence in Western Australia is equal to or greater than the points of presence threshold except to the extent that the Minister approves in writing.
- (2) The Minister must not give approval for the purposes of subsection (1) unless the Minister is satisfied that any proposed reduction below the points of presence threshold is consistent with market trends in the financial services industry.

*[Section 42J inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]*

**42K. Points of presence in regional areas not to be closed**

- (1) The Bankwest owner must not, at any time during the relevant period, close a point of presence that —
- (a) is not in the metropolitan region as defined in the *Planning and Development Act 2005* section 4(1); and
  - (b) is not in the Mandurah local government district.

- (2) Subsection (1) does not prevent the closure of a point of presence if the closure results from —
- (a) the relocation of the point of presence to a place within 5 km of its previous location; or
  - (b) the amalgamation of the point of presence with another point of presence within 5 km of its previous location.

- (3) In subsection (2) —

***previous location*** means the place where the point of presence was located immediately before the closure.

*[Section 42K inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]*

**42L. Head office personnel**

The Bankwest owner must ensure that, for the relevant period, the following functional positions (however they may be designated) are maintained at the head office of the Bankwest business —

- (a) chief information officer for that business;
- (b) chief financial officer for that business;
- (c) chief risk officer for that business;
- (d) head of human resources for that business.

*[Section 42L inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]*

**42M. Local sponsorship and community development initiatives**

The Bankwest owner must ensure that, in each year of the relevant period, the Bankwest business expends an aggregate amount on local sponsorship and community development initiatives in Western Australia that is not less than the aggregate amount expended on such initiatives by the BWA business in the year ending on 30 June 2011.

*[Section 42M inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]*

**Division 4 — Monitoring compliance**

*[Heading inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]*



**42O. Minister may require Bankwest owner to give information**

- (1) In this section —
- business information* means statistical information about the operation of the Bankwest business as at 30 June or 31 December in a particular year, including information about the following —
- (a) points of presence in Western Australia;
  - (b) the number of customers in Western Australia and the gross value of the business with those customers;
  - (c) the number of full-time equivalent employees in Western Australia.
- (2) The Minister may, by written notice, require the Bankwest owner to give business information to the Minister for the purpose of enabling the Minister to assess the Bankwest owner's compliance with the obligations imposed by this Part.
- (3) A notice under subsection (2) must give a brief description of the business information sought.
- (4) The Bankwest owner must comply with a notice under subsection (2) within —
- (a) 60 days after the notice is given; or
  - (b) any longer period that the Minister, in a particular case, allows.
- (5) The Minister must not disclose information provided in compliance with a notice under subsection (2) for any purpose other than the purpose for which it was given unless the disclosure is authorised by subsection (6).
- (6) The disclosure is authorised if —
- (a) it is made with the consent of the Bankwest owner; or
  - (b) it is required under another written law; or
  - (c) it is made for the purpose of —

- (i) answering a question asked in a House of Parliament; or
  - (ii) complying with an order or resolution of a House of Parliament that requires information to be given to a House of Parliament.
- (7) Before making a disclosure authorised by subsection (6)(b) or (c), the Minister must give the Bankwest owner written notice of the proposed disclosure if it is reasonably practicable to do so.

*[Section 42O inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]*

### **Division 5 — Enforcement of Divisions 2, 3 and 4**

*[Heading inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]*

#### **42P. Methods of enforcement**

- (1) The obligations imposed by Divisions 2 and 4 are enforceable under section 42Q and not otherwise.
- (2) The obligations imposed by Division 3 are enforceable under section 42R and not otherwise.

*[Section 42P inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]*

#### **42Q. Enforcement of Div. 2 and 4, Supreme Court's powers for**

- (1) The Supreme Court may, on the application of the Minister, grant an injunction in such terms as the court thinks fit where the court is satisfied that the Bankwest owner —
  - (a) has done or omitted to do or is proposing or attempting to do or omit to do any thing that amounts to, or would amount to, a contravention of a provision of Division 2 or 4; or
  - (b) is involved in a contravention of a provision of Division 2 or 4.

**Bank of Western Australia Act 1995**

**Part 5A** Provisions relating to transfer of BWA business and conduct of Bankwest business

**Division 5** Enforcement of Divisions 2, 3 and 4

**s. 42R**

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- (2) An interim or interlocutory injunction may be granted before final determination of an application.
- (3) If the Minister applies to the Supreme Court for an injunction under this section, the court is not to require the Minister, as a condition of granting an interim injunction, to give an undertaking as to damages.
- (4) A reference in subsection (1) to a person being involved in a contravention is a reference to a person who —
  - (a) has aided, abetted, counselled or procured the contravention; or
  - (b) has induced the contravention, whether by threats or promises or otherwise; or
  - (c) has been in any way, directly or indirectly, knowingly concerned in, or party to, the contravention; or
  - (d) has conspired with others to effect the contravention; or
  - (e) has attempted to do any act of a kind referred to in paragraph (a), (b), (c) or (d).

*[Section 42Q inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]*

**42R. Enforcement of Div. 3, Minister's powers for**

- (1) If the Minister believes on reasonable grounds that the Bankwest owner is contravening or has contravened a provision of Division 3, the Minister may give the Bankwest owner a notice (a ***contravention notice***) —
  - (a) specifying the provision that the Minister believes is being or has been contravened; and
  - (b) containing a brief description of the contravention; and
  - (c) stating that the Bankwest owner has a period of 28 days after the contravention notice is given within which to satisfy the Minister that the contravention is not occurring or has not occurred.



**Bank of Western Australia Act 1995**

**Part 5A** Provisions relating to transfer of BWA business and conduct of Bankwest business

**Division 6** Other provisions

**s. 42S**

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**42S. Transfer day, notification of**

- (1) The Minister is to cause notification of the transfer day<sup>5</sup> to be published in the *Gazette*.
- (2) Failure to comply with subsection (1) does not affect the operation of the other provisions of this Part.

*[Section 42S inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]*

**42T. Certain matters are excluded matters for *Corporations Act 2001* (Cwlth)**

The matters dealt with in Divisions 2 and 3 are declared to be excluded matters for the purposes of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Commonwealth) section 5F in relation to the whole of the Corporations legislation to which Part 1.1A of that Act applies.

*[Section 42T inserted: No. 14 of 2012 s. 7.]*

## **Part 5 — General**

### **42. Regulations**

The Governor may make regulations prescribing all matters that are required or are necessary or convenient to be prescribed for giving effect to this Act.

### **43. *Bank of Western Australia Act 1990*, transitional provisions for**

*[(1)-(3) Omitted under the Reprints Act 1984 s. 7(4)(e).]*

- (4) Division 2 of Schedule 1 has effect to make transitional provisions.

### **44. Other Acts, transitional provisions**

*[(1) Omitted under the Reprints Act 1984 s. 7(4)(e).]*

- (2) Part B of Schedule 2 has effect to make transitional provisions.

## **Schedule 1 — Provisions relating to *Bank of Western Australia Act 1990***

[s. 43(3) and (4)]

[*Heading amended: No. 19 of 2010 s. 4.*]

[*Division 1 omitted under the Reprints Act 1984 s. 7(4)(e).*]

### **Division 2 — Transitional provisions**

#### **11. Terms used**

In this Division —

**1990 Act** means the *Bank of Western Australia Act 1990*<sup>2</sup>;

**Bank** has the meaning given by section 19.

#### **12. Auditor General may disclose information**

- (1) Despite section 91 of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985*, the Auditor General may disclose to another auditor or provide another auditor with access to, information in his or her possession or under his or her control for the purposes of the audit of the Bank's accounts for the financial year during which the Bank is privatised under Part 2.
- (2) In subclause (1) **another auditor** means an auditor, other than the Auditor General, who is appointed by the Bank to audit the Bank's accounts for the financial year referred to in subclause (1).

#### **13. Payments under repealed s. 31 up to day of privatisation**

- (1) The repeal of section 31 of the 1990 Act<sup>9</sup> does not affect the liability of the Bank under that section in respect of the period from the preceding 1 October to the day on which the Bank becomes liable to tax referred to in that section.
- (2) For the purposes of subclause (1), section 31 has effect, despite its repeal, as if the period referred to in subclause (1) were a financial year.

**14. Agreements under s. 33(4a)**

The repeal of section 33 of the 1990 Act<sup>10</sup> does not affect any agreement made under subsection (4a) of that section so far as it applies to a period after the repeal, and any such agreement continues in force as if it had been made under section 21(2) of this Act.

**15. Securities taken as agent of Crown**

- (1) Any security for the repayment of advances vested in the Bank immediately before the commencement of section 43 that was taken by the Bank or a predecessor of the Bank as agent, trustee or nominee of the Crown in right of the State is vested in the Treasurer on the commencement of that section.
- (2) Any relevant official who records or registers documents under a written law is to take cognizance of subclause (1) and is authorised to make any entry or memorial or register any document necessary to show the effect of that subclause.
- (3) A statement in an instrument executed by or on behalf of the Treasurer that any security has become vested in the Treasurer under subclause (1) is evidence of that fact.
- (4) If any question arises as to whether a security comes within subclause (1) the question is to be determined by the Treasurer after consultation with the Bank.

## Schedule 2 — Provisions relating to other Acts

[s. 44]

[Heading amended: No. 19 of 2010 s. 4.]

[Part A omitted under the Reprints Act 1984 s. 7(4)(e).]

### Part B — Transitional provisions

#### 1. Provision relating to *Industry (Advances) Act 1947*

- (1) Any security for the repayment of advances taken under the *Industry (Advances) Act 1947*<sup>11</sup> and vested in the Bank immediately before the commencement of section 44 is vested in the Treasurer on the commencement of that section.
- (2) Any relevant official who records and registers documents under a written law is to take cognizance of subclause (1) and is authorised to make any entry or memorial or register any document necessary to show the effect of that subclause.
- (3) A statement in an instrument executed by or on behalf of the Treasurer that any security has become vested in the Treasurer under subclause (1) is evidence of that fact.

#### 2. Provisions relating to *Superannuation and Family Benefits Act 1938*

- (1) Despite the amendment made by item 13 of Part A of this Schedule<sup>12</sup>, the Bank is to be deemed to be a department under section 6(1) of the Act in respect of any employee who was a contributor under that Act immediately before the day of privatisation.
- (2) A person who was such a contributor may continue to be a contributor after the day of privatisation so long as the person remains an employee of the Bank.
- (3) The Bank, the Government Employees Superannuation Board and the Treasurer are to enter into an agreement —
  - (a) defining the entitlement to benefits that are to have effect for the purposes of the Act in respect of contributors referred to



## Notes

This is a compilation of the *Bank of Western Australia Act 1995* and includes amendments made by other written laws. For provisions that have come into operation, and for information about any reprints, see the compilation table. For provisions that have not yet come into operation see the uncommenced provisions table.

### Compilation table

Short title	Number and year	Assent	Commencement
<i>Bank of Western Australia Act 1995</i>	14 of 1995	4 Jul 1995	Long title, Pt. 1 & 2 (other than s. 11), s. 43(1) and (2): 4 Jul 1995 (see s. 2(1)); balance (other than s. 11): 1 Dec 1995 (see s. 2(3) and 9 and <i>Gazette</i> 29 Nov 1995 p. 5529)
<i>Corporations (Consequential Amendments) Act 2001</i> Pt. 6	10 of 2001	28 Jun 2001	15 Jul 2001 (see s. 2 and <i>Gazette</i> 29 Jun 2001 p. 3257 and <i>Cwlth Gazette</i> 13 Jul 2001 No. S285)
<b>Reprint 1: The <i>Bank of Western Australia Act 1995</i> as at 7 May 2004</b> (includes amendments listed above)			
<i>Financial Legislation Amendment and Repeal Act 2006</i> s. 4 and Sch. 1 cl. 14	77 of 2006	21 Dec 2006	1 Feb 2007 (see s. 2(1) and <i>Gazette</i> 19 Jan 2007 p. 137)
<i>Statutes (Repeals and Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 2009</i> s. 24	8 of 2009	21 May 2009	22 May 2009 (see s. 2(b))
<i>Standardisation of Formatting Act 2010</i> s. 4	19 of 2010	28 Jun 2010	11 Sep 2010 (see s. 2(b) and <i>Gazette</i> 10 Sep 2010 p. 4341)
<i>Bank of Western Australia Amendment Act 2012</i> Pt. 2	14 of 2012	3 Jul 2012	11 Aug 2012 (see s. 2(b) and <i>Gazette</i> 10 Aug 2012 p. 3803)
<b>Reprint 2: The <i>Bank of Western Australia Act 1995</i> as at 1 Mar 2013</b> (includes amendments listed above)			
<i>Statutes (Repeals and Minor Amendments) Act 2025</i> s. 11	14 of 2025	25 Sep 2025	26 Sep 2025 (see s. 2(b))

## Uncommenced provisions table

To view the text of the uncommenced provisions see *Acts as passed* on the WA legislation website.

Short title	Number and year	Assent	Commencement
<i>State Superannuation (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Act 2000 s. 75</i>	43 of 2000	2 Nov 2000	To be proclaimed (see s. 2(2))
<i>Evidence Act 2025 Pt. 12 Div. 5</i>	15 of 2025	25 Sep 2025	To be proclaimed (see s. 2(e))

### Other notes

- <sup>1</sup> The provisions in this Act amending the *Bank of Western Australia Act 1990* and other Acts have been omitted under the *Reprints Act 1984 s. 7(4)(e)*.
- <sup>2</sup> The *Bank of Western Australia Act 1990* (originally enacted as the *R&I Bank Act 1990*), the short title of which was changed to the *R & I Holdings Act 1990* by this Act Sch. 1 cl. 2, was repealed under the *R & I Holdings Act 1990 s. 22(2)*; see *Gazette* 26 Jun 2001 p. 3063. [Section 22 was inserted in the 1990 Act by this Act Sch. 1 cl. 9.]
- <sup>3</sup> Repealed by the *Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia Act 1987 s. 36*.
- <sup>4</sup> Repealed by the *R & I Bank Act 1990 s. 43*.
- <sup>5</sup> The transfer day is defined in s. 42A and is 1 Oct 2012 (see *Gazette* 9 Nov 2012 p. 5393).
- <sup>6</sup> Section 28 expired 25 Oct 1996 (see s. 28(2)).
- <sup>7</sup> The provision of this Act repealing Schedule 2 of the 1990 Act has been omitted under the *Reprints Act 1984 s. 7(4)(e)*.
- <sup>8</sup> The 1990 Act s. 22(2)(b) and 30 and Sch. 1 cl. 2, 3 and 4 were repealed by this Act Sch. 1 Div. 1 and have been omitted under the *Reprints Act 1984 s. 7(4)(e)*.
- <sup>9</sup> The provision of this Act (i.e. Sch. 1 cl. 10) repealing the 1990 Act s. 31 has been omitted under the *Reprints Act 1984 s. 7(4)(e)*.
- <sup>10</sup> The provision of this Act (i.e. Sch. 1 cl. 10) repealing the 1990 Act s. 33 has been omitted under the *Reprints Act 1984 s. 7(4)(e)*.

<sup>11</sup> The *Industry (Advances) Act 1947* was repealed by the *Industry and Technology Development Act 1998*.

<sup>12</sup> Schedule 2 Part A Item 13 has been omitted under the *Reprints Act 1984* s. 7(4)(e). It reads as follows:

13.	<i>Superannuation and Family Benefits Act 1938</i>	In section 6(1) in the definition of “department” delete “the Bank of Western Australia Ltd referred to in section 22 of the <i>Bank of Western Australia Act 1990</i> ,”.
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<sup>13</sup> The *Superannuation and Family Benefits Act 1938* was repealed by the *State Superannuation Act 2000* s. 39 but its provisions continue to apply to and in relation to certain schemes because of the *State Superannuation (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Act 2000* s. 26.

## Defined terms

*[This is a list of terms defined and the provisions where they are defined.*

*The list is not part of the law.]*

<b>Defined term</b>	<b>Provision(s)</b>
1987 Act.....	31
1990 Act.....	19, Sch. 1 cl. 11
Act.....	Sch. 2 cl. 2(7)
another auditor .....	Sch. 1 cl. 12(2)
appointed day .....	31
Bank.....	5, 14(5), 19, Sch. 1 cl. 11, Sch. 2 cl. 2(7)
bank description .....	27(2)
banker's books .....	33(3)
Bankwest business .....	42A
Bankwest name .....	42A
Bankwest owner.....	42A
business information .....	42O(1)
BWA business.....	42A
CBA .....	42A
contravention notice.....	42R(1)
customer.....	14(5)
day of privatisation .....	3
employee.....	Sch. 2 cl. 2(7)
excluded debt .....	20(3)
existing Act.....	5
former Bank .....	31
head office.....	42A
managing officer .....	42A
penalty notice.....	42R(3)
point of presence .....	42A
points of presence threshold.....	42A
previous location.....	42K(3)
private placement .....	5
privatisation .....	3
privatisation order .....	5
public authority .....	3
public float .....	5
R & I Holdings.....	5
relevant period .....	42A
repealed Acts.....	34(2)
subsidiary .....	14(5), 19

Defined terms

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transfer day .....	42A
voting share.....	5

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