

Western Australia

## **Health Legislation Administration Act 1984**

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## Health Legislation Administration Act 1984

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## Health Legislation Administration Act 1984

**An Act relating to the administration of certain Acts and to facilitate the provision of health services to the people of the State.**

**1. Short title**

This Act may be cited as the *Health Legislation Administration Act 1984*<sup>1</sup>.

**2. Commencement**

This Act shall come into operation on a day to be fixed by proclamation<sup>1</sup>.

**3. Interpretation**

In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears —

**“Department”** means the department of the Public Service of the State principally assisting the Minister in the administration of the Acts to which this Act applies;

**“prescribed officer”** means an officer referred to in section 6(1)(a), (b), (c) or (d) and any officer or officer of a class of officers prescribed by the regulations;

**“section”** means a section of this Act;

**“subsection”** means a subsection of the section wherein the term is used.

**4. Application**

This Act applies to the Acts the administration of which is committed by the Governor to the Minister.

**5. Objects**

The objects of this Act are to facilitate —

- (a) the co-ordination of the administration of the Acts to which this Act applies; and
- (b) the effective and efficient provision of health and related services to the people of the State.

**6. Officers and employees**

- (1) Subject to this section, there shall be appointed in the Department, under and subject to Part 3 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*, the following officers, namely —

- (a) a Commissioner of Health;
- (b) an Executive Director, Personal Health Services;
- (c) an Executive Director, Public Health and Scientific Support Services;
- (d) a Chief Psychiatrist,

and such other officers as are necessary for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of the Acts to which this Act applies.

- (2) Subject to Part III of the *Hospitals and Health Services Act 1927*, the Minister may for the purposes of the Acts to which this Act applies —

- (a) appoint persons, other than officers, as employees on a full time, part time or casual basis or for a specified period;
- (b) engage persons, other than officers, under contract for services.

- (3) Subject to the *Industrial Relations Act 1979*<sup>2</sup> and the *Public Service Arbitration Act 1966*<sup>3</sup>, the terms and conditions subject to which a person or a member of a class of persons is —

- (a) appointed as an employee under subsection (2)(a); or

- (b) engaged under contract for services under subsection (2)(b),

shall be as determined by the Minister after consultation with the Minister for Public Sector Management <sup>4</sup>.

- (4) A person shall not be appointed to hold or act in —
  - (a) an office referred to in subsection (1)(b) or (1)(c) unless he is registered as a medical practitioner under the *Medical Act 1894*;
  - (b) the office referred to in subsection (1)(d) unless he is a psychiatrist as defined in section 3 of the *Mental Health Act 1996*.

*[Section 6 amended by No. 32 of 1994 s. 3(2); No. 103 of 1994 s. 18; No. 69 of 1996 s. 38.]*

## **7. Power to designate officers and other persons**

The Minister may designate any officer or other person who holds the relevant qualifications for that position as a medical officer of health, environmental health officer, inspector or public health official, as the case requires, for the purposes of any Act to which this Act applies or for any provision thereof and may cancel any such designation.

*[Section 7 amended by No. 57 of 1997 s. 69.]*

## **8. Effect of appointment or designation**

Where a person is appointed or designated as an officer, medical officer of health, environmental health officer, inspector or public health officer under section 6 or 7, as the case requires, for the purposes of an Act to which this Act applies or for any provision of such an Act all the powers and duties conferred or imposed on holding such an appointment or having such a designation by this Act or by an Act to which this Act applies or by a provision of such an Act may be exercised and shall be carried out by the person so appointed or designated and any

order or direction given by such a person acting in pursuance of any such power or duty shall have effect accordingly.

*[Section 8 amended by No. 57 of 1997 s. 69.]*

**9. Power to delegate**

- (1) Subject to this section, the Minister or a prescribed officer (hereinafter referred to as “**the delegator**”) on whom a power is conferred or duty is imposed by any Act to which this Act applies (hereinafter referred to as “**a relevant Act**”) may, either generally or as otherwise provided by the instrument of delegation, by writing signed by him, delegate to a person (hereinafter referred to as “**the delegate**”) any of his powers or duties under that Act, other than this power of delegation.
- (2) For the purposes of a relevant Act, the exercise of a power or the performance of a duty by a delegate under this section shall be deemed to be the exercise of the power or the performance of the duty by the delegator.
- (3) A delegation under this section may be made to a specified person or to persons of a specified class, or may be made to the holder or holders for the time being of a specified office or class of offices.
- (4) A delegation under this section may —
  - (a) be made subject to such conditions, qualifications and exceptions as are set out in the instrument of delegation;
  - (b) be revoked or varied by instrument in writing signed by the delegator.
- (5) The delegator may exercise a power or perform a duty notwithstanding that he has delegated its exercise or performance under this section.
- (6) This section is in addition to, and not in derogation of, any power to delegate conferred on a delegator by a relevant Act.



**10. Application of *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985***

The provisions of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985* regulating the financial administration, audit and reporting of departments apply to and in respect of the Department and its operations.

*[Section 10 inserted by No. 98 of 1985 s. 3.]*

**11. Advisory groups, committees, councils and panels**

- (1) The Minister may establish such groups, committees, councils and panels as he thinks are necessary for the purposes of advising him on the administration of this Act and any Act to which this Act applies or any provision thereof, and on the provision of health and related services in this State.
- (2) The Minister may appoint such persons as he thinks fit to any group, committee, council or panel established under subsection (1).
- (3) A member of a group, committee, council or panel appointed under this section is entitled to such remuneration and allowances as are determined by the Minister after consultation with the Minister for Public Sector Management <sup>4</sup>.
- (4) The terms and conditions, other than those referred to in subsection (3), applicable in relation to a person appointed under this section shall be as determined by the Minister from time to time either generally or with respect to a particular appointment.
- (5) A person appointed under this section is not by that reason alone an officer of the Public Service of the State.

**12. Regulations**

The Governor may make such regulations as are contemplated by this Act or as he considers necessary or expedient for the purposes of this Act.

## Notes

- <sup>1</sup> This is a compilation of the *Health Legislation Administration Act 1984* and includes the amendments made by the other written laws referred to in the following table.

### Compilation table

Short title	Number and year	Assent	Commencement
<i>Health Legislation Administration Act 1984</i>	27 of 1984	31 May 1984	1 Jul 1984 (see s. 2 and <i>Gazette</i> 15 Jun 1984 p. 1629)
<i>Acts Amendment (Financial Administration and Audit) Act 1985 s. 3</i>	98 of 1985	4 Dec 1985	1 Jul 1986 (see s. 2 and <i>Gazette</i> 30 Jun 1986 p. 2255)
<i>Acts Amendment (Public Sector Management) Act 1994 s. 3(2)</i>	32 of 1994	29 Jun 1994	1 Oct 1994 (see s. 2 and <i>Gazette</i> 30 Sep 1994 p. 4948)
<i>Hospitals Amendment Act 1994 s. 18</i>	103 of 1994	11 Jan 1995	3 Feb 1995 (see s. 2 and <i>Gazette</i> 3 Feb 1995 p. 333)
<i>Mental Health (Consequential Provisions) Act 1996 Pt. 9<sup>5</sup></i>	69 of 1996	13 Nov 1996	13 Nov 1997 (see s. 2)
<i>Statutes (Repeals and Minor Amendments) Act 1997 s. 69</i>	57 of 1997	15 Dec 1997	15 Dec 1997 (see s. 2(1))

### Reprint of the *Health Legislation Administration Act 1984* as at 11 Jan 2002 (includes amendments listed above)

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- <sup>2</sup> Under the *Interpretation Act 1984* s. 16, a reference to the *Industrial Arbitration Act 1979* may be read as a reference to the *Industrial Relations Act 1979*. The reference was changed under the *Reprints Act 1984* s. 7(3)(g).
- <sup>3</sup> Repealed by the *Acts Amendment and Repeal (Industrial Relations) Act (No. 2) 1984*.
- <sup>4</sup> Under the *Public Sector Management Act 1994* s. 112(2), a reference in a written law to the Public Service Board is, unless the contrary intention appears or it is otherwise provided under the *Acts Amendment (Public Sector Management) Act 1994*, to be construed as if it had been amended to be a reference to the Minister for Public Sector Management (as defined in the *Interpretation Act 1984*). This reference was amended under the *Reprints Act 1984* s. 7(5)(a).

<sup>5</sup> The *Mental Health (Consequential Provisions) Act 1996* s. 38(2) reads as follows:

“

- (2) The person who immediately before the commencement of this provision held office as the Director, Psychiatric Services under the section amended by subsection (1) is to be taken after the commencement to hold the office of Chief Psychiatrist under that section.

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