

2025

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

ELEVENTH ASSEMBLY

**DI2024-277 LEGAL AID (COMMISSION PRESIDENT) APPOINTMENT 2024 – REVISED
EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

**Presented by
Tara Cheyne MLA
Attorney-General
February 2025**

Legal Aid (Commission President) Appointment 2024

Disallowable instrument DI2024–277

made under the

Legal Aid Act 1977, s 16 (2) (Constitution of board)

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Section 6 of the *Legal Aid Act 1977* (the Act) establishes the Legal Aid Commission (ACT). The Commission's functions include provision of legal assistance in ACT matters in accordance with the Act.

Part 3 of the Act establishes the Board of Commission. Under section 16(1)(a), the board must include a president of the commission.

This instrument appoints Ms Karen Fryar as the President of the Commission for a period of five years.

Members of the board appointed by the Minister are appointed on a part-time basis, under section 16(4) of the Act.

Section 50(1) of the Act provides for the eligibility requirements for appointment as the president of the commission. As Ms Fryar was a Magistrate in the ACT, she meets the eligibility requirements under section 50(1)(b).

Ms Fryar is not a public servant. As required by section 228 of the *Legislation Act 2001*, consultation with the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety was undertaken on this appointment.