

FIRST PRINT

EVIDENCE (CHILDREN) AMENDMENT BILL 1985

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Explanatory Note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament)

This Bill is cognate with the Crimes (Child Assault) Amendment Bill 1985.

The object of this Bill is to remove the strict requirement that a Judge on a trial in which a child gives evidence warn the jury in every case that it is unsafe to convict the accused on the uncorroborated evidence of a child.

Clause 1 specifies the short title of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides that the proposed Act will, with minor exceptions, commence on a day to be appointed by the Governor-in-Council.

Clause 3 amends the Evidence Act 1898 by inserting a provision (proposed section 42A) which states that a Judge on the trial of a person is no longer required to warn the jury that it is unsafe to convict the person on the uncorroborated evidence of a child.

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