

Legalise Cannabis (Referendum) Bill 2024

Explanatory Memorandum

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Background

The Legalise Cannabis (Referendum) Bill 2024 provides for a question relating to the legalisation of cannabis for home growth and adult personal use to be submitted to the electors under the Referendums Act 1983, such question to coincide with the next general election for the Legislative Assembly.

Clause 1 - Short title

Clause 1 provides that the Act may be cited as the *Legalise Cannabis (Referendum) Act 2024*.

Clause 2 - Commencement

Clause 2 provides that the Act comes into operation on the day on which it receives the Royal Assent.

Clause 3 – The Act binds the Crown

Clause 3 provides that the Act binds the Crown in right of Western Australia and, so far as the legislative power of Parliament permits, the Crown in all of its other capacities.

Clause 4 – Terms Used

Clause 4 defines the specific terms used within this Act, namely that:

assent day has the meaning given in section 2(a);

election has the meaning given in the *Referendums Act 1983* section 2(1);

electors has the meaning given in the *Referendums Act 1983* section 2(1).

Clause 5 – Referendum Date and Prescribed Question

Clause 5 provides that, at the day of the next general election for the Legislative Assembly, the following question is to be submitted to the electors in accordance with the *Referendums Act 1983*, with the elector being required to place the word “Yes” or “No”, as the case may be, in the space provided on the ballot paper for the answer to that question:

Question – Cannabis Legalisation

Should cannabis be legalised in Western Australia to allow for home growth and adult personal use?

The outcome of this question has no bearing on the outcome of the general election and vice-versa.