

# Child Welfare Ordinance 1957, Australian Capital Territory

1958 – 1988

URL: <http://www.legislation.act.gov.au/ord/1957-17/default.asp>

## Details

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The Child Welfare Ordinance 1957 (Act no. 17/1957) ended the application of NSW child welfare legislation in the ACT. A child committed to an institution by an ACT court could still be removed to NSW for detention and maintenance in a State institution. It commenced on 1 March 1958, and was repealed by the Children's Services Act 1986 on 26 April 1988.

The Ordinance specified that where a court committed a child or young person to the care of the Minister on the grounds that the child was 'neglected,' or where a parent had consented to the admission of a child or young person to government control, the child could be apprenticed, boarded out, placed out or placed as an adopted boarder. The court could also commit a 'neglected' child to an institution.

The 1957 Ordinance was amended by the *Child Welfare Amendment Ordinance 1979 (Cth)* – which removed the powers of the Minister to place a ward as an adopted boarder or apprentice. Instead the minister was to provide accommodation and maintenance for the child admitted to government control. The minister could revoke an admission to government control on the application of a relative.

Amended by Act No.14 1962, Act No.27 1968, Act No.17 1969, Act No.32 1971, Act No.36 1973, Act No.47 1974, Act No.17 1975, Act No.65 1977, Act No.8 1979, Act No.25 1979, Act no.57 1982, Act No.9 1985, Act No.59 1985, Act No.66 1985, Act No.67 1985, Act No.26 1987

## More info

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### Chronology

- Juvenile Offenders (Probation) Ordinance 1940, Australian Capital Territory (1940 - 1958)
- Neglected Children and Juvenile Offenders Ordinance 1949, Commonwealth of Australia (1949 - 1958)
- Juvenile Offenders Ordinance 1941, Commonwealth of Australia (1941 - 1958)
  - **Child Welfare Ordinance 1957, Australian Capital Territory (1958 – 1988)**
    - Children's Services Act 1986, Australian Capital Territory (1987 - 2000)
      - Children and Young People Act 1999, Australian Capital Territory (1999 - 2009)
      - Children and Young People Act 2008, Australian Capital Territory (2008 - current)

### Related Entries

### Related Events

- [Transfer of children from Australian Capital Territory \(ACT\) and Norfolk Island to New South Wales \(NSW\) \(1941 - 1986\)](#)

New South Wales child welfare legislation no longer applied in the ACT after the passage of the Child Welfare Ordinance 1957, although children and young people continued to be transferred from ACT to NSW.

### Related Organisations

- [Child Welfare Department, State Government of New South Wales \(1923 - 1970\)](#)
- [Welfare Section, Australian Capital Territory \(1957 - 1970\)](#)

In 1968 the Welfare Section, ACT acquired responsibility for the welfare of children in the ACT, including the responsibilities outlined in the *Child Welfare Ordinance 1957*.

Date: 1968 - 1970

- [Birralee \(1957? - 1968\)](#)

The Child Welfare Ordinance 1957 legislated for a regional officer from the Child Welfare Department (NSW) to be stationed in Canberra who would work collaboratively with social workers and 'other persons' from the Department of the Interior. The Ordinance also gave the territory power to establish depots, shelters, homes and hostels in the ACT. It appears that the Birralee shelter was established shortly after the Ordinance was passed.

### Is amended by

- [Child Welfare \(Amendment\) Act 1985, Australian Capital Territory \(1985 - 2000\)](#)  
Date: 7 November 1985 - 21 December 2000
- [Child Welfare \(Amendment\) Ordinance \(No. 2\) 1979, Australian Capital Territory \(1979 - 1988\)](#)  
Date: 21 August 1979 - 26 April 1988
- [Child Welfare \(Amendment\) Ordinance 1979, Australian Capital Territory \(1979 - 1988\)](#)  
Date: 11 April 1979 - 26 April 1988
- [Child Welfare \(Amendment\) Ordinance 1982, Australian Capital Territory \(1983 - 1988\)](#)  
Date: 11 August 1983 - 26 April 1988
- [Child Welfare \(Amendment\) Ordinance 1987, Australian Capital Territory \(1987 - 1988\)](#)  
Date: 30 June 1987 - 26 April 1988
- [Child Welfare Ordinance 1962, Australian Capital Territory \(1962 - 1988\)](#)  
Date: 26 November 1962 - 26 April 1988
- [Child Welfare Ordinance 1968, Australian Capital Territory \(1969 - 1988\)](#)  
Date: 1 January 1969 - 26 April 1988
- [Child Welfare Ordinance 1969, Australian Capital Territory \(1969 - 1988\)](#)  
Date: 28 August 1969 - 26 April 1988
- [Child Welfare Ordinance 1971, Australian Capital Territory \(1971 - 1988\)](#)  
Date: 1 July 1971 - 26 April 1988
- [Child Welfare Ordinance 1973, Australian Capital Territory \(1973 - 1988\)](#)  
Date: 3 August 1973 - 26 April 1988

### Related Concepts

- [Law in the Australian Capital Territory](#)

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