

# Community Welfare Act 1982, New South Wales

1981 – 1987

**Other Names:** • An Act with respect to community welfare

**URL:** <https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/view/pdf/asmade/act-1982-76>

## Details

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The Community Welfare Act 1982 (76/1982) was an Act that modernised and consolidated the Child Welfare Act 1939 and other Acts that related to children. The Act stated that the welfare and interests of children were to be given 'paramount consideration', that children should be , and that there should be 'no interruption of parental rights contrary to the wishes of children and their parents.' An important provision of the Community Welfare Act was that the neglect of children had to be proved beyond reasonable doubt. It introduced some provisions for disability ('handicapped persons'). The Act created the Community Welfare Advisory Council and the New South Wales Advisory Council on the Handicapped, and a Community Services Training Council to assist with training staff of the Department of Youth and Community Services. This Act was repealed by the Miscellaneous Acts (Community Welfare) Repeal and Amendment Act 1987.

The *Community Welfare Act 1982* was the result of a series of election promises to overhaul child welfare that had been made by the Wran Labor Government in 1976. The Government began a consultation process with a Green Paper in 1978 and had failed to pass a Community Welfare Bill in 1981.

## More info

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### Related Entries

#### Related Legislation

- [Child Welfare Act 1939, New South Wales \(1939 - 1987\)](#)  
The *Community Welfare Act 1982* modernised and consolidated the *Child Welfare Act 1939*.
- [Adoption of Children Act 1965, New South Wales \(1965 - 2003\)](#)
- [Infants' Custody and Settlements Act, New South Wales \(1899 - current\)](#)
- [Child Welfare \(Amendment\) Act 1969, New South Wales \(1969 - 1987\)](#)
- [Miscellaneous Acts \(Community Welfare\) Repeal and Amendment Act 1987, New South Wales \(1987 - 2007\)](#)  
The *Community Welfare Act 1982* was repealed by the *Miscellaneous Acts (Community Welfare) Repeal and Amendment Act 1987*.

#### Related Organisations

- [Department of Youth and Community Services, State Government of New South Wales \(1976 - 1988\)](#)

## Resources

- Parliamentary Counsel's Office, [NSW legislation](#), No date
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You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/community-welfare-act-1982-2/>