



New South Wales

Education Amendment (Ethics) Bill 2010

Explanatory note

This explanatory note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament.

Overview of Bill

The object of this Bill is to amend the *Education Act 1990* to allow special education in ethics as a secular alternative to special religious education at government schools.

Outline of provisions

Clause 1 sets out the name (also called the short title) of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides for the commencement of the proposed Act on the date of assent to the proposed Act.

Clause 3 amends the *Education Act 1990* by inserting proposed section 33A. The proposed section declares that special education in ethics is allowed as a secular alternative to special religious education at government schools.

If the parent of a child objects to the child receiving special religious education, the child is entitled to receive special education in ethics, but only if:

- (a) it is reasonably practicable for special education in ethics to be made available to the child at the government school, and

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- (b) the parent requests that the child receive special education in ethics.
A government school cannot be directed (by the Minister or otherwise) not to make special education in ethics available at the school.

First print



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Education Amendment (Ethics) Bill 2010

No. , 2010

A Bill for

An Act to amend the *Education Act 1990* in relation to ethics education at government schools.

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| The Legislature of New South Wales enacts: | 1 |
| 1 Name of Act | 2 |
| This Act is the <i>Education Amendment (Ethics) Act 2010</i> . | 3 |
| 2 Commencement | 4 |
| This Act commences on the date of assent to this Act. | 5 |
| 3 Amendment of Education Act 1990 No 8 | 6 |
| Section 33A | 7 |
| Insert after section 33: | 8 |
| 33A Special education in ethics as secular alternative to special religious education | 9 |
| (1) Special education in ethics is allowed as a secular alternative to special religious education at government schools. | 11 |
| (2) If the parent of a child objects to the child receiving special religious education, the child is entitled to receive special education in ethics, but only if: | 12 |
| (a) it is reasonably practicable for special education in ethics to be made available to the child at the government school, and | 13 |
| (b) the parent requests that the child receive special education in ethics. | 14 |
| (3) A government school cannot be directed (by the Minister or otherwise) not to make special education in ethics available at the school. | 15 |
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