

**Version No. 030**  
**Prostitution Control Act 1994**

**Act No. 102/1994**

Version incorporating amendments as at 1 July 1998

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**The Parliament of Victoria enacts as follows:**

**PART I—PRELIMINARY**

**1. Purpose**

The main purpose of this Act is to seek to control prostitution in Victoria. The Act also amends the **Crimes Act 1958** to create a new offence related to child sex tourism and amends the **Travel Agents Act 1986** to provide for the disqualification of licensed travel agents who are convicted of offences against that provision or the similar provisions contained in the Crimes Act 1914 of the Commonwealth.

**2. Commencement**

- (1) Section 1 and this section come into operation on the day on which this Act receives the Royal Assent.
- (2) Subject to sub-section (3), the remaining provisions of this Act come into operation on a day or days to be proclaimed.
- (3) If a provision referred to in sub-section (2) does not come into operation within the period of 6 months beginning on, and including, the day on which this Act receives the Royal Assent, it comes into operation on the first day after the day of that period.

**3. Definitions**

In this Act—

**"Advisory Committee"** means the Advisory Committee established by section 67;

**"approved manager"** means a person who holds an approval of the Authority under section 52 as a manager of a prostitution service providing business;

S. 3 def. of "approved manager" inserted by No. 47/1997 s. 4, amended by No. 52/1998 s. 194(a).

**"assault"** has the same meaning as in section 31(1) of the **Crimes Act 1958**;

**"authorised member of the police force"** means a member of the police force who is—

- (a) of or above the rank of sergeant; or
- (b) authorised in writing by the Chief Commissioner of Police to enforce Parts 3 to 5;

**"authorised officer of the responsible authority"** means an officer of the responsible authority who is authorised in writing by the responsible authority to enforce Parts 4 and 5;

**"Authority"** means the Business Licensing Authority established under the **Business Licensing Authority Act 1998**

S. 3 def. of "Authority" inserted by No. 52/1998 s. 194(b).

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S. 3 def. of "Board" repealed by No. 52/1998 s. 194(c).

**"brothel"** means any premises made available for the purpose of prostitution by a person carrying on the business of providing

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prostitution services at the business's premises;

S. 3 def. of "building" inserted by No. 73/1996 s. 69.

**"building"** means building or other structure permanently affixed to land, other than land covered with water, but does not include—

- (a) a building or structure that is of a temporary nature or that is readily capable of being moved or transported from place to place; and
- (b) a vehicle within the meaning of the **Road Safety Act 1986**; and
- (c) a railway locomotive or railway rolling stock; and
- (d) a vessel within the meaning of the **Marine Act 1988**; and
- (e) an aircraft of any type;

**"caretaker's house"** means a dwelling on a site occupied by—

- (a) the owner or manager of an industry, business or community or religious establishment conducted on the site; or
- (b) a person who has care of any building on the site in which such an industry, business or establishment is conducted or of any plant on the site used in the conduct of that industry, business or establishment;

**"child"** means a person under the age of 18 years;

S. 3 def. of "children's services centre" substituted by No. 53/1996 s. 60.

**"children's services centre"** means any premises or place where a children's service within the meaning of the **Children's Services Act 1996** operates;

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**"director"**, in relation to a body corporate, has the same meaning as in section 9 of the Corporations Law;

**"Director of Fair Trading"** means the Director of the Office of Fair Trading and Business Affairs in the Department of Justice;

S. 3 def. of "Director of Fair Trading" inserted by No. 52/1998 s. 194(b).

**"disqualifying offence"**, in relation to an application for a licence, means—

- (a) an indictable offence; or
- (b) an offence which, if committed in Victoria, would have been an indictable offence—

S. 3 def. of "disqualifying offence" amended by No. 52/1998 s. 194(d).

that, in the opinion of the Authority, is of a kind that renders the applicant ineligible to hold a licence;

**"drug of dependence"** has the same meaning as in the **Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981**;

**"entry authority"** means writing issued in accordance with the procedure set out in section 64(2);

**"escort agency"** means a business of providing, or facilitating the provision of, prostitution services to persons at premises not made available by the agency;

**"Fund"** means the Prostitution Control Fund;

S. 3 def. of "Fund" amended by No. 52/1998 s. 194(e).

**"hospital"** means public hospital, private hospital or denominational hospital within the meaning of the **Health Services Act 1988**;



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**"law enforcement agency"** means—

- (a) the police force of Victoria or of any other State or of the Northern Territory; or
- (b) the Australian Federal Police; or
- (c) the National Crime Authority established by the National Crime Authority Act 1984 of the Commonwealth;

**"licence"** means a licence granted under Part 3 authorising the holder to carry on business as a prostitution service provider;

S. 3 def. of "member" repealed by No. 52/1998 s. 194(c).

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**"office hours"** means between the hours of 9.00 a.m. and 5.00 p.m. on any day other than—

- (a) a Saturday or Sunday; or
- (b) a day appointed under the **Public Holidays Act 1993** as a public holiday in the relevant place;

**"officer"**, in relation to a body corporate, has the meaning given by section 82A of the Corporations Law;

**"owner"** means the person for the time being entitled to receive the rent of the land with respect to which the word is used or who would be entitled to receive the rent if the land were let at a rent;

**"payment"** includes any form of commercial consideration;

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**"prostitution"** means the provision by one person to or for another person (whether or not of a different sex) of sexual services in return for payment or reward;

**"prostitution service provider"** means a person carrying on a business of a kind referred to in the definitions in this section of "brothel" and "escort agency";

**"public place"** has the same meaning as in the **Summary Offences Act 1966**;

**"publish"** means —

- (a) insert in a newspaper or other publication; or
- (b) disseminate by broadcast, telecast or cinematograph; or
- (c) exhibit by means of posters, film or videotape; or
- (d) send or deliver to any person by any means whatever; or
- (e) throw or leave upon premises in the occupation of any person; or
- (f) bring to the notice of the public or any member of the public by any other means whatever;

**"Registrar"** means the Registrar of the Authority appointed under the **Business Licensing Authority Act 1998**;

S. 3 def. of "Registrar" substituted by No. 52/1998 s. 194(f).

**"relevant financial interest"**, in relation to a business, means—

- (a) any share in the capital of the business; or

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- (b) any entitlement to receive any income derived from the business; or
- (c) any entitlement to receive any payment as a result of money advanced to the business;

**"relevant position"**, in relation to a business, means the position of director, manager or other executive position or secretary, however that position is designated;

**"relevant power"**, in relation to a business, means any power, whether exercisable by voting or otherwise and whether exercisable alone or in association with others—

- (a) to participate in any directorial, managerial or executive decision in the business; or
- (b) to elect or appoint any person to any relevant position in the business;

**"responsible authority"** has the same meaning as in the **Planning and Environment Act 1987**;

**"school"** means State school within the meaning of the **Education Act 1958** or any other school within the meaning of Part III of that Act;

**"sexual services"** includes—

- (a) taking part with another person in an act of sexual penetration within the meaning of Subdivisions (8A) to (8G) of Division 1 of Part I of the **Crimes Act 1958**; and
  - (b) masturbating another person;
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**"sexually transmitted disease"** means—

- (a) a disease or condition prescribed by the regulations to be a sexually transmitted disease; or
- (b) HIV as defined by section 3 of the **Health Act 1958**.

**"Tribunal"** means Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal established by the **Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 1998**.

S. 3 def. of "Tribunal" inserted by No. 52/1998 s. 194(b).

#### **4. *Objects of Act***

The objects of this Act are—

- (a) to seek to protect children from sexual exploitation and coercion;
- (b) to lessen the impact on the community and community amenities of the carrying on of prostitution-related activities;
- (c) to seek to ensure that criminals are not involved in the prostitution industry;
- (d) to seek to ensure that brothels are not located in residential areas or in areas frequented by children;
- (e) to maximise the protection of prostitutes and their clients from health risks;
- (f) to maximise the protection of prostitutes from violence and exploitation;
- (g) to ensure that brothels are accessible to law enforcement officers, health workers and other social service providers;
- (h) to promote the welfare and occupational health and safety of prostitutes.

**PART 2—OFFENCES CONNECTED WITH PROSTITUTION**

**5. *Causing or inducing child to take part in prostitution***

S. 5(1)  
amended by  
No. 48/1997  
s. 70(1).

- (1) A person must not cause or induce a child to take part in an act of prostitution, whether as the prostitute or as the client or in any other capacity, or to continue to take part in such acts.

Penalty: Level 5 imprisonment (10 years maximum).

- (2) An offence against sub-section (1) is an indictable offence.
- (3) In a proceeding for an offence against sub-section (1)—
- (a) it is not necessary for the prosecution to prove that the accused knew that the person concerned was a child; but
  - (b) it is a defence to the charge for the accused to prove that, having taken all reasonable steps to find out the age of the person concerned, the accused believed on reasonable grounds, at the time the offence is alleged to have been committed, that the person concerned was aged 18 years or more.

**6. *Obtaining payment for sexual services provided by a child***

S. 6(1)  
amended by  
No. 48/1997  
s. 70(2).

- (1) A person must not receive a payment (except in the ordinary course of a business unrelated to prostitution) knowing that it or any part of it has been derived, directly or indirectly, from sexual services provided by a child.

Penalty: Level 4 imprisonment (15 years maximum).

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- (2) An offence against sub-section (1) is an indictable offence.
  - (3) If in a proceeding for an offence against sub-section (1) it is proved that the accused was residing with a prostitute who was a child, the accused must be presumed to be guilty of the offence in the absence of proof to the contrary.
  - (4) In a proceeding for an offence against sub-section (1)—
    - (a) it is not necessary for the prosecution to prove that the accused knew that the person concerned was a child; but
    - (b) it is a defence to the charge for the accused to prove that, having taken all reasonable steps to find out the age of the person concerned, the accused believed on reasonable grounds, at the time the offence is alleged to have been committed, that the person concerned was aged 18 years or more.

**7. *Agreement for provision of sexual services by a child***

- (1) A person must not enter into or offer to enter into an agreement under which a child is to provide sexual services to or for that person or another person in return for payment or in exchange for drugs of dependence.

S. 7(1)  
amended by  
No. 48/1997  
s. 70(3).

Penalty: Level 4 imprisonment (15 years maximum).

- (2) An offence against sub-section (1) is an indictable offence.
- (3) In a proceeding for an offence against sub-section (1)—
  - (a) it is not necessary for the prosecution to prove that the accused knew that the person

who was to provide the sexual services was a child; but

- (b) if the person concerned was aged 17 years or more at the time the offence is alleged to have been committed, it is a defence to the charge for the accused to prove that, having taken all reasonable steps to find out the age of the person concerned, the accused believed on reasonable grounds, at the time the offence is alleged to have been committed, that the person concerned was aged 18 years or more.

**8. *Forcing person into or to remain in prostitution***

S. 8(1)  
amended by  
No. 48/1997  
s. 70(4).

- (1) A person must not with intent to induce another person aged 18 years or more to engage or continue to engage in prostitution—
- (a) assault or threaten to assault that other person or any other person; or
  - (b) intimidate that other person or any other person; or
  - (c) supply or offer to supply a drug of dependence to that other person or any other person; or
  - (d) make a false representation or use any false pretence or other fraudulent means.

Penalty: Level 5 imprisonment (10 years maximum).

- (2) An offence against sub-section (1) is an indictable offence.

**9. *Forcing person to provide financial support out of prostitution***

S. 9(1)  
amended by  
No. 48/1997  
s. 70(5).

- (1) A person must not with intent to induce another person aged 18 years or more to provide or continue to provide him or her with a payment or

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payments derived, directly or indirectly, from prostitution engaged in by that other person—

- (a) assault or threaten to assault that other person or any other person; or
- (b) intimidate that other person or any other person; or
- (c) supply or offer to supply a drug of dependence to that other person or any other person.

Penalty: Level 5 imprisonment (10 years maximum).

- (2) An offence against sub-section (1) is an indictable offence.

**10. *Living on earnings of prostitute***

- (1) A person must not knowingly live wholly or in part on, or derive a material benefit from, the earnings of prostitution.

S. 10(1)  
amended by  
No. 48/1997  
s. 70(6).

Penalty: Level 6 imprisonment (5 years maximum).

- (2) An offence against sub-section (1) is an indictable offence.
- (3) A person is not guilty of an offence against sub-section (1) only because of deriving income as a prostitution service provider if—
  - (a) there has been granted, and is in force, any licence required under Part 3 to authorise the person who is carrying on the business to carry on that business; and
  - (b) there has been granted, and is in force, any permit required under the **Planning and Environment Act 1987** for the use or development of the land for the purposes of the business.



- (4) In a proceeding for an offence against sub-section (1) it is a defence to the charge for the accused to prove that he or she did not hold a relevant position (whether in his or her own right or on behalf of any other person) in the prostitution service providing business or exercise a significant influence over or with respect to the management or operation of that business.

**11. *Allowing child to take part in prostitution***

S. 11(1)  
amended by  
No. 48/1997  
s. 70(7).

- (1) A person who owns or occupies any premises or who manages or assists in the management of any premises must not allow a child to enter or remain on the premises for the purpose of taking part in an act of prostitution, whether as the prostitute or as the client or in any other capacity.

Penalty: Level 5 imprisonment (10 years maximum).

- (2) An offence against sub-section (1) is an indictable offence.
- (3) In a proceeding for an offence against sub-section (1)—
- (a) it is not necessary for the prosecution to prove that the accused knew that the person concerned was a child; but
  - (b) it is a defence to the charge for the accused to prove that, having taken all reasonable steps to find out the age of the person concerned, the accused believed on reasonable grounds, at the time the offence is alleged to have been committed, that the person concerned was aged 18 years or more.
- (4) If in a proceeding for an offence against sub-section (1) it is proved—
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- (a) that a child was on premises used for the purposes of the operation of a brothel and in respect of which a permit is required under the **Planning and Environment Act 1987** for their use or development for those purposes; and
  - (b) that the child was on those premises for the purpose of taking part in an act of prostitution—

the accused must be presumed to have allowed the child to enter or remain on those premises for that purpose unless the accused satisfies the court on the balance of probabilities that he or she did not know, and could not reasonably have known, that a child was on those premises for that purpose at the time the offence is alleged to have been committed.

**11A. *Child over 18 months not to be in brothel***

- (1) A person who carries on a business of a kind referred to in the definition of "brothel" in section 3 or who assists in the management of that business must not allow a child over the age of 18 months to enter or remain in a brothel at which that business is carried on for any purpose whatsoever.

Penalty: 120 penalty units or imprisonment for 12 months.

- (2) In a proceeding for an offence against sub-section (1)—
  - (a) it is not necessary for the prosecution to prove that the accused knew that the person concerned was a child over the age of 18 months; but
  - (b) it is a defence to the charge for the accused to prove that, having taken all reasonable

S. 11A  
inserted by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 26.

steps to find out the age of the person concerned, the accused believed on reasonable grounds, at the time the offence is alleged to have been committed, that the person concerned was aged 18 years or more or under 18 months.

**12. *Street prostitution (offences by clients)***

- (1) A person must not for the purpose of, or with the intention of, inviting or soliciting any person to prostitute himself or herself with him or her or another person or of being accosted by or on behalf of a prostitute, intentionally or recklessly loiter in or near—
- (a) a place of worship; or
  - (b) a hospital; or
  - (c) a school, kindergarten or children's services centre; or
  - (d) a public place regularly frequented by children and in which children are present at the time of the loitering.

Penalty: For a first offence—30 penalty units or imprisonment for 3 months;  
For a second offence—60 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months;  
For a subsequent offence—90 penalty units or imprisonment for 9 months.

- (2) A person must not—
- (a) loiter in or frequent a public place for the purpose of, or with the intention of, inviting or soliciting any person to prostitute himself or herself with him or her or another person or of being accosted by or on behalf of a prostitute; or
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- (b) in a public place invite or solicit any person to prostitute himself or herself with him or her or another person.

Penalty: For a first offence—10 penalty units or imprisonment for 1 month;  
For a second offence—30 penalty units or imprisonment for 3 months;  
For a subsequent offence—60 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

**13. *Street prostitution (offences by prostitutes)***

- (1) A person must not for the purpose of prostitution intentionally or recklessly solicit or accost any person or loiter in or near—
- (a) a place of worship; or
  - (b) a hospital; or
  - (c) a school, kindergarten or children's services centre; or
  - (d) a public place regularly frequented by children and in which children are present at the time of the soliciting, accosting or loitering.

Penalty: For a first offence—10 penalty units or imprisonment for 1 month;  
For a second offence—30 penalty units or imprisonment for 3 months;  
For a subsequent offence—60 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

- (2) A person must not for the purpose of prostitution solicit or accost any person or loiter in a public place.

Penalty: For a first offence—5 penalty units or imprisonment for 1 month;  
For a second offence—15 penalty units or imprisonment for 3 months;  
For a subsequent offence—25 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

**14. *Exceptions to street prostitution offences***

- (1) An act done in a brothel or in any premises on which an escort agency carries on business which, but for this sub-section, would constitute an offence against section 12 or 13 does not constitute an offence against that section if the act is not visible to a person in a public place outside the brothel or those premises.
- (2) An act done by a member of the police force or other person which, but for this sub-section, would constitute an offence against section 12 or 13 or render him or her an accomplice to the commission of such an offence does not have that consequence if the act is done under written instructions given in relation to a particular case by a member of the police force not below the rank of senior sergeant.

**15. *Being in, entering or leaving unlicensed brothel***

A person must not be found, without reasonable excuse, in or entering or leaving a brothel in respect of which there is not in force any licence required under Part 3.

Penalty: For a first offence—10 penalty units or imprisonment for 1 month;

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For a second offence—30 penalty units  
or imprisonment for 3 months;

For a subsequent offence—60 penalty  
units or imprisonment for 6 months.

**16. *Offensive behaviour towards prostitutes***

A person must not in or near a public place with  
the intention of intimidating, insulting or  
harassing a prostitute—

- (a) behave in an indecent, offensive or insulting  
manner; or
- (b) use threatening, abusive or insulting words.

Penalty: 30 penalty units or imprisonment for  
3 months.

**17. *Controls on advertising by prostitution service  
providers***

- (1) A person must not publish or cause to be  
published an advertisement for prostitution  
services that—

- (a) describes the services offered; or
- (b) contravenes the regulations.

Penalty: 40 penalty units.

- (2) A person must not cause an advertisement for  
prostitution services to be broadcast or televised.

Penalty: 40 penalty units.

- (3) A person must not publish or cause to be  
published a statement which is intended or likely  
to induce a person to seek employment—

- (a) as a prostitute; or
- (b) in a brothel or with an escort agency or any  
other business that provides prostitution  
services.

Penalty: 40 penalty units.

- (4) A prostitution service provider or any other business that provides prostitution services must not publish or cause to be published an advertisement for the business that—
- (a) uses (either alone or in combination with any other word or words or letters) the words "massage", "masseur", "remedial" or any other words that state or imply that the business provides massage services; or
  - (b) holds the business out either directly or by implication as a provider of massage services.

Penalty: 40 penalty units.

- (5) If in a proceeding for an offence against this section it is proved to the court that—
- (a) an advertisement has been published for or relating to a brothel, escort agency or any other business that provides prostitution services; and
  - (b) a person is the owner or occupier of the premises on which the brothel, escort agency or that other business is carried on—

that person must, in the absence of proof to the contrary, be presumed to have caused the advertisement to be published.

### **18. Advertising regulations**

The Governor in Council may make regulations for or with respect to—

- (a) the size, form and content of advertisements for prostitution services or any class of prostitution services;
  - (b) prohibiting the advertising—
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- (i) in a specified publication or specified class of publication; or
  - (ii) in a specified manner—  
of advertisements for prostitution services or any class of prostitution services;
  - (c) generally prescribing any other matter or thing required or permitted by section 17 to be prescribed or necessary to be prescribed to give effect to section 17.

**19. *Permitting prostitute infected with a disease to work in a brothel etc.***

- (1) A person who—
  - (a) is a prostitution service provider; or
  - (b) manages a brothel or an escort agency or any other business that provides prostitution services—

must not permit a prostitute to work (whether under a contract of service or a contract for services) in a brothel or for the escort agency or other business during any period in which he or she knows that the prostitute is infected with a sexually transmitted disease.

Penalty: 50 penalty units.

- (2) If it is proved to a court that a person referred to in sub-section (1) permitted a prostitute to work as mentioned in that sub-section during a period in which the prostitute was infected with a sexually transmitted disease, that person must be presumed to have known that the prostitute was so infected unless that person proves that at the time the offence is alleged to have been committed that person believed on reasonable grounds—



S. 19(2)(a)  
substituted by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 27(1).

- (a) that the prostitute had been undergoing—
  - (i) regular blood tests, on at least a quarterly basis, for HIV (as defined by section 3 of the **Health Act 1958**) and each other sexually transmitted disease for which blood tests are appropriate; and
  - (ii) regular swab tests, on at least a monthly basis, for the purpose of determining whether he or she was infected with any other sexually transmitted disease; and
- (b) that the prostitute was not infected with a sexually transmitted disease.

**20. *Prostitute working while infected with a disease***

- (1) A person must not work as a prostitute during any period in which he or she knows that he or she is infected with a sexually transmitted disease.

Penalty: 20 penalty units.

- (2) If it is proved to a court that a person worked as a prostitute during a period in which he or she was infected with a sexually transmitted disease, he or she must be presumed to have known that he or she was so infected unless he or she proves that at the time the offence is alleged to have been committed—

S. 20(2)(a)  
substituted by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 27(2).

- (a) that he or she had been undergoing—
    - (i) regular blood tests, on at least a quarterly basis for HIV (as defined by section 3 of the **Health Act 1958**) and each other sexually transmitted disease for which blood tests are appropriate; and
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- (ii) regular swab tests, on at least a monthly basis, for the purpose of determining whether he or she was infected with any other sexually transmitted disease; and
- (b) he or she believed on reasonable grounds that he or she was not infected with a sexually transmitted disease.

**21. *Consuming liquor in brothel***

- (1) A prostitution service provider must not—
  - (a) sell, supply or consume liquor at a brothel; or
  - (b) permit liquor to be sold, supplied or consumed at a brothel.

Penalty: 100 penalty units.

- (2) If in a proceeding for an offence against subsection (1)(b) it is proved to the court that liquor was sold, supplied or consumed at a brothel, the prostitution service provider must, in the absence of proof to the contrary, be presumed to have permitted the liquor to be sold, supplied or consumed.
- (3) This section applies despite anything to the contrary in the **Liquor Control Act 1987** or in any licence or permit granted or having effect under that Act.

**21A. *Operating brothel other than in a building***

- (1) A person must not carry on business as a prostitution service provider of a kind referred to in the definition of "brothel" in section 3 at premises—
  - (a) for which there is not in force a permit granted under the **Planning and Environment Act 1987** for their use or

S. 21A  
inserted by  
No. 73/1996  
s. 70.

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development for the purposes of the  
operation of a brothel; and

(b) that are not a building or part of a building.

Penalty: 360 penalty units or imprisonment for  
3 years or both.

(2) An offence against sub-section (1) is an indictable  
offence.

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**PART 3—LICENSING SYSTEM**

**Division 1—Requirement To Be Licensed**

**22. *Prostitution service providers to be licensed***

- (1) A person must not carry on business as a prostitution service provider—
- (a) without holding a licence; or
  - (b) in breach of any condition of a licence; or
  - (c) when a licence is suspended.

S. 22(1)  
amended by  
No. 48/1997  
s. 70(8).

S. 22(1)(b)  
amended by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 5.

S. 22(1)(c)  
inserted by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 5.

Penalty: Level 6 imprisonment (5 years maximum) or 360 penalty units or both.

- (2) In a proceeding for an offence against sub-section (1) it is a defence to the charge for the accused to prove that he or she was exempted by section 23 from the requirement to hold a licence.
- (3) A person must not assist in the carrying on of a prostitution service providing business at a time when he or she knows that sub-section (1) is being contravened or is reckless as to whether or not sub-section (1) is being contravened.

S. 22(3)  
amended by  
No. 48/1997  
s. 70(9).

Penalty: Level 6 imprisonment (5 years maximum) or 360 penalty units or both.

- (4) An offence against sub-section (1) or (3) is an indictable offence.
- (5) In a proceeding for an offence against sub-section (1) or (3) evidence of the presence on premises of materials commonly used in safe sexual practices is inadmissible for the purpose of establishing that

a prostitution service provider carried on business on those premises.

**23. *Special provisions for small owner-operated businesses***

(1) Subject to this section, the following are exempt from the requirement to hold a licence—

S. 23(1)(a)  
substituted by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 28(1).

(a) a person carrying on a business as a prostitution service provider—

(i) of a kind referred to in the definition of "brothel" in section 3 at premises in accordance with a permit granted under the **Planning and Environment Act 1987**; or

(ii) of a kind referred to in the definition of "escort agency" in section 3; or

(iii) of a kind referred to in both subparagraphs (i) and (ii)—

if only that person works as a prostitute in that business or only that person and one other particular person so work;

S. 23(1)(b)  
substituted by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 28(1).

(b) two persons who either jointly or separately carry on such a business if only those persons work as prostitutes in that business.

(2) An exemption referred to in sub-section (1) does not apply if—

S. 23(2)(a)  
amended by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 28(2)(a)  
(i)–(iii).

(a) clients are managed or directed to the premises or otherwise attended to by a person who does not work in the business and who performs this function in the course of another business; or

S. 23(2)(b)  
amended by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 28(2)(b).

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s. 23

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- (b) a person who works in the business directs clients to a prostitute who does not work in the business; or
- (c) the business being carried on is associated with another prostitution service providing business, whether of the kind referred to in the definition of "brothel" or "escort agency" in section 3 or of both kinds.
- (3) For the purposes of sub-section (2)(c) businesses are associated if—
- (a) they are carried on by the same person; or
- (b) one business is carried on by a person and the other business is carried on by a person who is—
- (i) a spouse or defacto partner of that person; or
- (ii) a business partner of that person; or
- (iii) a person who has entered into a business arrangement or relationship with that person in respect of that person's business as a prostitution service provider; or
- (iv) directly receiving any income derived from the business carried on by the other; or
- (c) one business is carried on by a body corporate and the other business is carried on by a person who—
- (i) is a director or secretary of the body corporate or a spouse or defacto partner of such a director or secretary; or

S. 23(2)(c)  
amended by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 28(2)(c)(i)(ii).

S. 23(3)(b)(iii)  
amended by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 28(3).

- (ii) holds or will hold any relevant financial interest, or is or will be entitled to exercise any relevant power (whether in his or her own right or on behalf of any other person), in the business of the body corporate and thereby is able or will be able to exercise a significant influence over or with respect to the management or operation of that business; or
- (iii) holds or will hold any relevant position (whether in his or her own right or on behalf of any other person) in the business of the body corporate; or
- (iv) is a related body corporate within the meaning of section 9 of the Corporations Law or a director or secretary, or a spouse or defacto partner of a director or secretary, of a related body corporate.

**24. Register for businesses to which section 23 applies**

S. 24(1)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 195(a).

- (1) A person who intends to rely on an exemption under section 23 must, before commencing to carry on business or as soon as practicable after the commencement of this sub-section (whichever occurs first), give to the Authority the prescribed particulars in relation to the business.

Penalty: 30 penalty units.

S. 24(2)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 195(a)(b).

- (2) The Registrar must enter in a register any particulars given to the Authority in accordance with sub-section (1).

S. 24(3)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 195(a)(c).

- (3) The register referred to in sub-section (2) may only be inspected by the Director of Fair Trading, by members or staff of the Authority or by

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authorised members of the police force or authorised officers of the responsible authority.

- (4) The Registrar may correct an error or omission in the register by—

S. 24(4)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 195(b).

- (a) inserting an entry; or  
(b) amending an entry; or  
(c) omitting an entry—

if he or she decides that the correction is necessary.

- (5) The Registrar may make the correction on his or her own initiative or on the application of any person.

S. 24(5)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 195(b).

- (6) On making a correction the Registrar must record in the register the date on which it was made.

S. 24(6)  
amended by  
Nos 47/1997  
s. 6(1),  
52/1998  
s. 195(b)  
S. 24(7)

- (7) The Authority, on the application of a person whose name appears in the register, may direct the Registrar to omit that person's entry from the register with effect from the date on which the application was received by the Authority.

inserted by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 6(2),  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 195(a)(b).

- (8) On omitting an entry the Registrar must record in the register the date with effect from which the omission was made.

S. 24(8)  
inserted by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 6(2),  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 195(b).



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Pt 3 Div. 2  
(Heading and  
ss 25–32)  
amended by  
Nos 99/1995  
s. 29, 47/1997  
ss 7–11,  
46/1998  
s. 7(Sch. 1),  
substituted as  
Pt 3 Div. 2  
(Heading and  
ss 25–27) by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 196.

**Division 2—The Authority and the Director of Fair Trading**

S. 25  
substituted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 196.

**25. *Functions of Authority***

The functions of the Authority under this Act are—

- (a) to determine licence applications;
- (b) to determine manager approval applications;
- (c) to liaise with the police force so as to assist the police force in carrying out its functions in relation to prostitution;
- (d) to refer relevant matters for investigation by the WorkCover Authority, the Australian Taxation Office or the Commonwealth Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs or any other body;
- (e) to inform the Advisory Committee about issues and trends relevant to its functions.

S. 26  
substituted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 196.

**26. *Functions of Director of Fair Trading***

The functions of the Director of Fair Trading under this Act are—

- (a) to refer to the police force for investigation prostitution-related complaints, including complaints from prostitutes;

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- (b) to liaise with the Authority and the police force so as—
    - (i) to assist the Authority in carrying out its functions under this Act; and
    - (ii) to assist the police force in carrying out its functions in relation to prostitution;
  - (c) to refer relevant matters for investigation by the WorkCover Authority, the Australian Taxation Office or the Commonwealth Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs or any other body.

**27. Delegation by Director of Fair Trading**

The Director of Fair Trading may, by instrument, delegate to—

- (a) the Authority; or
- (b) the Registrar; or
- (c) any person engaged or appointed under section 7(2) or 15 of the **Business Licensing Authority Act 1998**; or
- (d) any person employed or engaged to work in the Office of Fair Trading and Business Affairs—

any function or power of the Director under this Act other than this power of delegation.

\* \* \* \* \*

S. 27 substituted by No. 52/1998 s. 196.

Ss 27A–32 repealed by No. 52/1998 s. 196.

**Division 3—Applications**

**33. *Application for licence***

S. 33(1)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 197(1).

(1) A natural person aged 18 years or more who is not already a licensee may apply to the Authority for a licence authorising him or her to carry on business as a prostitution service provider, whether of the kind referred to in the definition of "brothel" in section 3 or as an escort agency or both.

S. 33(2)(a)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 197(2).

(2) An application—

(a) must be in writing in the form approved by the Authority;

(b) must specify—

(i) the name, address, occupation and date of birth—

(A) of the applicant; and

(B) of the owner of the premises on which the applicant intends to carry on the business or, if the owner is a body corporate, of each director and the secretary of the body corporate;

(ii) the address of the premises at which, and the name or names under which, the applicant intends to carry on the business;

(iii) whether the applicant intends to carry on the business in partnership with, or otherwise in association or conjunction with, another person;

(iv) any other matters that are prescribed;

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- (c) must be signed by the applicant;
  - (d) must be accompanied by—
    - (i) the prescribed application fee;
    - (ia) the prescribed licence fee;

S. 33(2)(d)(ia)  
inserted by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 12.

- (ii) any other things that are prescribed.
- (3) An applicant must consent to having his or her fingerprints taken by an officer of the Authority or an authorised member of the police force.

S. 33(3)  
inserted by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 30(1),  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 197(1).

- (4) The Authority may refuse to consider an application for a licence if the applicant refuses to allow his or her fingerprints to be taken.

S. 33(4)  
inserted by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 30(1),  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 197(1).

**34. *Applications to be made available to the public***

The Authority must make a copy of every application for a licence that has not yet been determined available at its office for any person to inspect during office hours free of charge.

S. 34  
substituted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 198.

**35. *Notice of application***

- (1) The Authority must give notice of an application for a licence—
  - (a) to the responsible authority; and
  - (b) in a newspaper generally circulating in Victoria.
- (2) A notice under sub-section (1) must invite written submissions on the grant of a licence to the

S. 35  
substituted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 199.

applicant to be sent to the Authority before the date specified in the notice.

- (3) In determining the application the Authority must consider any submission received by it before the specified date unless it is satisfied that the submission is frivolous, vexatious or irrelevant to the grant of a licence to the applicant.

S. 36  
amended by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 30(2),  
substituted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 199.

**36. *Application to be referred to Director of Fair Trading and the Chief Commissioner***

- (1) The Authority must, except in the prescribed circumstances, give any details that the Authority considers relevant in respect of each application for a licence to the Director of Fair Trading and the Chief Commissioner of Police.
- (2) The Authority must refer any fingerprints taken under section 33(3) to the Chief Commissioner of Police and must not itself keep a copy of those fingerprints.
- (3) The Chief Commissioner of Police, on receiving details of the application, must make any inquiries in relation to the application that the Chief Commissioner of Police considers appropriate.
- (4) The Chief Commissioner, after receiving the results of the inquiries, must report to the Authority.
- (5) The report may include recommendations.

S. 36A  
inserted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 199.

**36A. *Consideration of application***

- (1) The Authority must consider every application for a licence.
- (2) In considering an application for a licence, the Authority may—
- (a) conduct any inquiries it thinks fit;

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- (b) require an applicant to provide any further information that the Authority thinks fit in the manner required by the Authority;
  - (c) seek advice and information on the application from any other person or body or source it thinks fit.
- (3) The Authority may engage or appoint any person to assist it in considering an application.
  - (4) The Authority may refuse to grant a licence to a person if the person does not provide the further information required within a reasonable time of the requirement being made.
  - (5) The Authority may postpone its consideration of an application for a licence until such time as it considers appropriate.
  - (6) The Authority is not required to conduct a hearing to determine whether to grant a licence or refuse to grant a licence.

**37. *Circumstances in which Board must refuse licence application***

- (1) The Authority must refuse to grant a licence to a person whom it is satisfied—
  - (a) is not a suitable person to carry on business as a prostitution service provider; or
  - (b) has, within the preceding 5 years, been convicted or found guilty of a disqualifying offence; or
  - (c) has, within the preceding 5 years, had a licence granted to him or her cancelled under Division 4; or
  - (d) is an associate of a person who has, within the preceding 5 years, been convicted or found guilty of a disqualifying offence; or

S. 37(1)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 200(a)(b).

S. 37(1)(c)  
amended by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 13.

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s. 37(1)(e)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 200(c).

(e) is an associate of a body corporate a director or secretary of which has, within the preceding 5 years, been convicted or found guilty of a disqualifying offence; or

S. 37(1)(f)  
inserted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 200(c).

(f) is an insolvent under administration; or

S. 37(1)(g)  
inserted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 200(c).

(g) is a represented person within the meaning of the **Guardianship and Administration Act 1986**.

(2) For the purposes of sub-section (1)(d) a person is an associate of another person if he or she—

(a) is a spouse or defacto partner of that other person; or

(b) is a business partner of that other person; or

(c) has entered into a business arrangement or relationship with that other person in respect of a prostitution service providing business.

(3) For the purposes of sub-section (1)(e) a person is an associate of a body corporate if he or she—

(a) is a director or secretary of the body corporate or a spouse or defacto partner of such a director or secretary; or

(b) holds or will hold any relevant financial interest, or is or will be entitled to exercise any relevant power (whether in his or her own right or on behalf of any other person), in the business of the body corporate and thereby is able or will be able to exercise a significant influence over or with respect to the management or operation of that business; or

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- (c) holds or will hold any relevant position (whether in his or her own right or on behalf of any other person) in the business of the body corporate.

**38. *Matters to be considered in determining suitability of applicant***

- (1) In determining whether an applicant for a licence is a suitable person to carry on business as a prostitution service provider, the Authority must consider—
  - (a) whether the applicant is of good repute, having regard to character, honesty and integrity;
  - (b) whether the applicant has, or is or will be able to obtain, financial resources that are adequate to ensure the financial viability of the business;
  - (c) whether the applicant has sufficient business ability to establish and maintain a successful business;
  - (d) whether the applicant will have in place arrangements to ensure the safety of persons working in the business that are adequate and comply with the prescribed requirements or the conditions or restrictions that might be set out in a licence;
  - (e) whether the proposed business structure is sufficiently transparent to enable all associates of the applicant (whether natural persons or bodies corporate) to be readily identified for the purposes of section 37;
  - (f) any other matters that are prescribed.

S. 38(1)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 201(a)(b).



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s. 39

S. 38(2)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 201(b).

- (2) The Authority must not class a person as not being a suitable person to carry on business as a prostitution service provider only because he or she has worked as a prostitute.

**39. *Grant or refusal of licence***

S. 39(1)  
substituted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 202(1).

- (1) The Authority must grant a licence to an applicant if it is satisfied that the applicant is eligible for the grant of the licence.

- (2) A licence may be granted subject to the conditions or restrictions set out in the licence which may include, in the case of an escort agency, requiring a specified type of communication system to be made available to, and used by, persons working in the business.

S. 39(3)  
amended by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 14,  
substituted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 202(2).

- (3) A licence remains in force until it is surrendered, suspended or cancelled.

- (4) A licence—
- (a) is personal to the licensee;
  - (b) is not transferable to any other person;
  - (c) does not vest by operation of law in any other person.

**40. *Amendment of licence***

S. 40(1)  
substituted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 203(1).

- (1) The Authority may at any time vary or revoke a condition or restriction set out in a licence or impose a new condition or restriction.

S. 40(1A)  
inserted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 203(1).

- (1A) The conditions and restrictions to which a licence is subject must be set out in the licence.
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- (2) The Authority may act under sub-section (1)—
- (a) of its own initiative; or
  - (b) on the application of the licensee; or
  - (c) on the application of an authorised member of the police force.

S. 40(2)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 203(2).

\* \* \* \* \*

S. 40(3)  
amended by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 15, repealed  
by No.  
52/1998 s.  
203(3).

**40AA. *Endorsement of licence***

- (1) If under section 40 or 48A, a condition or restriction is imposed on a licence or varied or revoked, the Authority may require the licensee to produce the licence for endorsement of or variation or revocation of the condition or restriction.

S. 40AA  
inserted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 204.

- (2) A licensee must comply with a requirement under sub-section (1).

Penalty: 10 penalty units.

**40A. *Surrender of licence***

- (1) Subject to sub-section (2), a licensee may at any time by notice in writing to the Authority surrender the licence.
- (2) If the Tribunal has determined to conduct an inquiry under section 48 in relation to a licensee, the licensee may not, without leave of the Tribunal, surrender the licence unless the Tribunal has determined to take action under section 48A or has determined not to take any such action.

S. 40A  
inserted by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 16.

S. 40A(1)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 205(1).

S. 40A(2)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 205(2).

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S. 40A(3)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 205(1).

- (3) The person who held a licence that has been surrendered must return the licence to the Authority within 14 days of surrendering it.

Penalty: 10 penalty units.

S. 41  
amended by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 17,  
substituted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 206.

**41. *Cancelled or suspended licence must be returned***

If a licence is suspended or cancelled under this Act, the person to whom the licence was issued must return the licence to the Authority within 7 days of becoming aware of the suspension or cancellation.

Penalty: 25 penalty units.

S. 42  
amended by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 18, repealed  
by No.  
52/1998 s.  
207.

\* \* \* \* \*

S. 43  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 208(a)(b).

**43. *Updating of application***

If before a licence application is determined the applicant becomes aware of a change that has occurred in the information provided at any time by the applicant in, or in relation to, the application, the applicant must within 10 days after becoming so aware give particulars of the change to the Authority by writing signed by the applicant.

Penalty: 60 penalty units.

**44. *Withdrawal of application***

S. 44(1)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 209(1).

- (1) An applicant for a licence may withdraw his or her application at any time before it has been determined.

S. 44(2)  
substituted by  
Nos 47/1997  
s. 19, 52/1998  
s. 209(2).

- (2) If an application for a licence is withdrawn by the applicant or rejected by the Authority, the Authority—

- 
- (a) may, at its discretion, direct the refund of the whole or part of the application fee; and
  - (b) must direct the refund of the licence fee—  
that accompanied the application.

**45. *False or misleading information***

- (1) A person must not in, or in relation to, an application for a licence or a statement under section 46A give information that is false or misleading in a material particular.

S. 45(1)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 210.

Penalty: 60 penalty units.

- (2) In a proceeding for an offence against sub-section (1) it is a defence to the charge for the accused to prove that at the time at which the offence is alleged to have been committed, the accused believed on reasonable grounds—
  - (a) in the case of false information—that the information was true; or
  - (b) in the case of misleading information—that the information was not misleading.

**46. *Requirement to notify changes in information provided***

S. 46  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 211(a)(b).

If at any time while a licence is in force the licensee becomes aware of a change that has occurred in the information provided at any time by the licensee in, or in relation to, an application for the licence or a statement under section 46A, the licensee must within 10 days after becoming so aware give particulars of the change to the Authority by writing signed by the licensee.

Penalty: 60 penalty units.

*Prostitution Control Act 1994*  
*Act No. 102/1994*

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s. 46A

S. 46A  
inserted by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 20,  
substituted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 212.

**46A. Annual licence fee and statement**

- (1) A licensee must pay to the Authority the relevant prescribed annual licence fee on each anniversary of the date that the licence was granted.
- (2) An annual licence fee may be paid at any time in the 6 weeks before it falls due.
- (3) The payment must be accompanied by a statement in respect of the year up to the date that the payment is made that is in a form approved by the Authority and that is signed by the licensee.
- (4) The statement must contain any information and be accompanied by any documents required by the Authority.

S. 46B  
inserted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 212.

**46B. Extension of time**

- (1) On payment of any fee required by the regulations, a person may apply to the Authority for an extension of time or a further extension of time in which to comply with section 46A.
- (2) The Authority may grant the application if it is made before the date in relation to which the extension is sought.

S. 46C  
inserted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 212.

**46C. Failure to comply with section 46A**

- (1) If the licensee fails to comply with section 46A, the Authority must give the licensee a written notice stating that unless the licensee complies with that section and also pays to the Authority the late payment fee or late lodgement fee required by the regulations by the date specified in the notice, the licence will be cancelled.
  - (2) The date specified in the notice must be at least 14 days after the date on which the notice is given to the licensee.
  - (3) If the licensee has not complied with section 46A and paid the late payment fee or late lodgement
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fee by the date specified in the notice, the licence is automatically cancelled.

**Division 4—Licence Cancellation and Disciplinary Action**

Pt 3 Div. 4  
(Heading)  
substituted by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 21.

**47. Licence cancellation**

- (1) The Tribunal must cancel a licence if it is satisfied that since the granting of the licence—
- (a) the licensee has been convicted or found guilty of an offence against the **Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981** or against a law of another State or of a Territory of the Commonwealth which the Governor in Council, by Order published in the Government Gazette, declares to be a law that makes provision substantially similar to the provisions of that Act or against a corresponding law within the meaning of that Act; or
  - (ab) the licensee has been convicted or found guilty of an offence that is set out in Schedule 3; or
  - (b) the licensee has been convicted or found guilty of an indictable offence punishable by imprisonment for 12 months or more or of an offence which, if committed in Victoria, would have been an indictable offence punishable by imprisonment for 12 months or more; or
  - (c) the licensee has been convicted or found guilty of an offence against section 45(1); or
  - (d) the licensee has served a sentence of imprisonment, whether in Victoria or outside Victoria.

S. 47(1)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 213(a)(b).

S. 47(1)(ab)  
inserted by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 22(1).

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*Act No. 102/1994*

s. 48

S. 47(2)  
amended by  
No. 73/1996  
s. 71, repealed  
by No.  
47/1997  
s. 22(2).<sup>1</sup>

\* \* \* \* \*

S. 47(3)  
amended by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 22(3),  
substituted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 213(2).

(3) The Tribunal may act under sub-section (1) on the application of the Chief Commissioner of Police or an authorised officer of the responsible authority.

S. 47(3A)  
inserted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 213(2).

(3A) A licence is automatically cancelled if since the granting of the licence—  
(a) the licensee becomes an insolvent under administration; or  
(b) the licensee becomes a represented person within the meaning of the **Guardianship and Administration Act 1986**.

(4) The cancellation of a licence has no effect on any permit in force under the **Planning and Environment Act 1987** for a use or development of land for the purposes of the licensed business or on any action which might be taken under that or any other Act or law in respect of a contravention of a condition of such a permit.

S. 48  
substituted by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 23.

**48. Disciplinary action against licensee**

S. 48(1)  
substituted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 214(1).

(1) The Chief Commissioner of Police or an authorised officer of the responsible authority may apply at any time to the Tribunal to conduct an inquiry to determine whether there are grounds for taking action under section 48A against a licensee.

*Prostitution Control Act 1994*  
*Act No. 102/1994*

s. 48

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- \*            \*            \*            \*            \*
- (3) There are grounds for taking action under section 48A if the Tribunal is satisfied that—
- (a) any use or development of land for the purposes of the licensed business is or was in contravention of a condition of a permit granted under the **Planning and Environment Act 1987**; or
  - (b) the licensee has been convicted or found guilty of any offence against this Act or the regulations; or
  - (c) the licensee has been convicted or found guilty of an offence against the regulations made under section 146 of the **Health Act 1958**; or
  - (d) the licensed business has been managed in such a way that it is desirable that action should be taken against the licensee; or
  - (e) an offence under the **Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981** or an indictable offence punishable by imprisonment for 12 months or more has been committed on premises at which the licensee is carrying on business as a prostitution service provider; or
  - (f) the licensee has been charged with any offence referred to in—
    - (i) section 47(1)(a), (b) or (c); or
    - (ii) paragraph (b), (c) or (e) of this subsection; or
    - (iii) Schedule 3; or
- S. 48(2)  
repealed by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 214(2).
- S. 48(3)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 214(3)(a).
- S. 48(3)(d)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 214(3)(b).



s. 48A

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*Act No. 102/1994*

(g) the licensee has contravened this Act or the regulations.

S. 48(4)  
repealed by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 214(2).

\* \* \* \* \*

(5) If an application for a disciplinary inquiry is made, an inquiry must not start within 30 days of when the application for the inquiry is made unless—

S. 48(5)(a)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 214(4).

(a) the person who made the application or the licensee applies to the Tribunal for the inquiry to be started within that time; and

S. 48(5)(b)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 214(4).

(b) the Tribunal is satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances.

S. 48A  
inserted by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 23.

**48A. *Disciplinary powers of Board***

S. 48A(1)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 215(1)(a)(b).

(1) In addition to any other powers of the Tribunal under this Act it may, if satisfied that there are grounds for taking action against a licensee under this section, by order do one or more of the following—

(a) reprimand the licensee;

S. 48A(1)(b)  
repealed by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 215(1)(c).

\* \* \* \* \*

S. 48A(1)(c)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 215(1)(d).

(c) order the licensee to pay into the Fund a penalty of up to \$10 000;

*Prostitution Control Act 1994*

*Act No. 102/1994*

s. 48A

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- (d) impose any condition or restriction on the licence;
- (e) require the licensee to enter into an undertaking to perform, or not to perform, certain tasks to be specified in the undertaking;
- (f) require the licensee to comply within, or for, a specified time with a requirement specified by the Tribunal; **S. 48A(1)(f) amended by No. 52/1998 s. 215(1)(e).**
- (g) cancel the licence or suspend the licence for a specified period not exceeding one year; **S. 48A(1)(g) substituted by No. 52/1998 s. 215(1)(f).**
- (h) order that the licensee be ineligible to hold a licence or be an approved manager either permanently or temporarily.
- (2) Despite anything to the contrary in sub-section (1), the only action that the Tribunal may take solely on the ground set out in section 48(3)(f) is to suspend the licence. **S. 48A(2) amended by No. 52/1998 s. 215(2).**
- (3) If the Tribunal orders the payment of an amount under sub-section (1)(b) or (c)— **S. 48A(3) amended by No. 52/1998 s. 215(2).**
- (a) it may order that the amount be paid by a specified date; and
- (b) if the amount is not paid by that date, it may suspend the licence until the amount is paid and set a final payment date; and
- (c) if the amount has not been paid by that final date, it may cancel the licence; and
- (d) it may extend any period of time it sets under paragraph (a) or (b) at any time.
- (4) The Tribunal may suspend or cancel a licence under sub-section (3) without giving the licensee a chance to be heard. **S. 48A(4) amended by No. 52/1998 s. 215(2).**
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*Act No. 102/1994*

s. 49A

(5) Subject to sub-section (6), a suspension imposed on a licensee under sub-section (1) solely on the ground set out in section 48(3)(f) remains in force until the licence—

(a) is surrendered; or

(b) is cancelled.

S. 48A(5)(b) amended by No. 52/1998 s. 215(3).

S. 48A(5)(c) repealed by No. 52/1998 s. 215(3).

\* \* \* \* \*

(6) The Tribunal must immediately remove a suspension referred to in sub-section (5) if—

(a) the charge is withdrawn; or

(b) the licensee is not found guilty of the offence on the hearing and determination of the charge; or

(c) any finding of guilt made, and any conviction recorded, on the hearing and determination of the charge is set aside on appeal.

S. 48A(6) amended by No. 52/1998 s. 215(2).

(7) The cancellation or suspension of a licence has no effect on any permit in force under the **Planning and Environment Act 1987** for a use or development of land for the purposes of the licensed business or on any action which might be taken under that or any other Act or law in respect of a contravention of a condition of such a permit.

**Division 5—Approved Managers**

**49. Personal supervision of business**

*Prostitution Control Act 1994*

*Act No. 102/1994*

s. 50

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- (1) A licensed business of a kind referred to in the definition in section 3 of "brothel" must at all times when open for business be personally supervised by the licensee or an approved manager.
- (2) A licensee or approved manager who is not on the premises at which the business is being carried on at a particular time cannot be regarded as personally supervising the business at that time.
- (3) If sub-section (1) is contravened with respect to a licensed prostitution service providing business—
- (a) the licensee; and
  - (b) the approved manager (if any) whose duty it was to personally supervise the business at the relevant time—
- are each guilty of an offence and liable to a penalty of not more than 60 penalty units or imprisonment for not more than 6 months.
- (4) In a proceeding for an offence against sub-section (3), it is a defence to the charge for the accused to prove that at the time the offence is alleged to have been committed—
- (a) the accused did not know and could not reasonably have known that the business was open for business and was not being personally supervised as required by sub-section (1); or
  - (b) the accused believed on reasonable grounds that the business was being personally supervised as required by sub-section (1).

S. 49(1)  
amended by  
Nos 99/1995  
s. 31, 47/1997  
s. 24(1).

S. 49(2)  
amended by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 24(2).

**50. Approval of manager**

*Prostitution Control Act 1994*  
*Act No. 102/1994*

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S. 50(1)  
substituted by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 25(1),  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 216(1).

(1) A person may at any time apply to the Authority for approval of himself or herself as a manager of a prostitution service providing business or for the renewal of such an approval.

(2) An application under sub-section (1) must be in writing and be accompanied by the prescribed application fee and any other things that are prescribed.

S. 50(2A)  
inserted by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 30(3),  
amended by  
Nos 47/1997  
s. 25(2),  
52/1998  
s. 216(1).

(2A) An applicant under sub-section (1) must consent to having his or her fingerprints taken by an officer of the Authority or an authorised member of the police force.

S. 50(2B)  
inserted by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 30(3),  
amended by  
Nos 47/1997  
s. 25(3),  
52/1998  
s. 216(1).

(2B) The Authority may refuse to consider an application under sub-section (1) if the applicant refuses to allow his or her fingerprints to be taken.

(3) A renewal application must be made at least 3 months before the expiry of the approval but not earlier than 6 months before that expiry.

S. 50(4)  
repealed by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 216(2).

\* \* \* \* \*

S. 50(5)  
repealed by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 216(2).

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*Prostitution Control Act 1994*

*Act No. 102/1994*

s. 51

(5A) The Authority must refer any fingerprints taken under sub-section (2A) to the Chief Commissioner of Police and must not itself keep a copy of those fingerprints.

S. 50(5A) inserted by No. 99/1995 s. 30(4), amended by No. 52/1998 s. 216(1).

\* \* \* \* \*

S. 50(6) repealed by No. 52/1998 s. 216(2).

(7) Sections 36, 36A, 43, 44 and 45, extend and apply to applications under sub-section (1) in the same way and to the same extent as they do in relation to licence applications with any necessary modifications.

S. 50(7) amended by No. 47/1997 s. 25(4), substituted by No. 52/1998 s. 216(3).

**51. *Circumstances in which Board must refuse approval application***

(1) The Authority must refuse to approve as a manager of a prostitution service providing business a person whom it is satisfied—

S. 51(1) amended by No. 52/1998 s. 217(a).

(a) is not of good repute, having regard to character, honesty and integrity; or

(b) has, within the preceding 5 years, been convicted or found guilty of an offence which would be a disqualifying offence if the person were applying for a licence; or

(c) has, within the preceding 5 years, had a licence granted to him or her cancelled under Division 4; or

S. 51(1)(c) amended by No. 47/1997 s. 26.

(d) is an associate of a person who has, within the preceding 5 years, been convicted or found guilty of an offence referred to in paragraph (b); or

(e) is an associate of a body corporate a director or secretary of which has, within the

S. 51(1)(e) amended by No. 52/1998 s. 217(b).

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preceding 5 years, been convicted or found guilty of an offence referred to in paragraph (b); or

S. 51(1)(f)  
inserted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 217(b).

(f) is an insolvent under administration; or

S. 51(1)(g)  
inserted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 217(b).

(g) is a represented person within the meaning of the **Guardianship and Administration Act 1986**.

- (2) For the purposes of sub-section (1)(d) a person is an associate of another person if he or she—
- (a) is a spouse or defacto partner of that other person; or
  - (b) is a business partner of that other person; or
  - (c) has entered into a business arrangement or relationship with that other person in respect of a prostitution service providing business.
- (3) For the purposes of sub-section (1)(e) a person is an associate of a body corporate if he or she—
- (a) is a director or secretary of the body corporate or a spouse or defacto partner of such a director or secretary; or
  - (b) holds or will hold any relevant financial interest, or is or will be entitled to exercise any relevant power (whether in his or her own right or on behalf of any other person), in the business of the body corporate and thereby is able or will be able to exercise a significant influence over or with respect to the management or operation of that business; or
  - (c) holds or will hold any relevant position (whether in his or her own right or on behalf of any other person) in the business of the body corporate.

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**52. *Grant or refusal of approval***

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|---|---|
| (1) The Authority may approve of a person as a manager of a prostitution service providing business or refuse to give such an approval.   | S. 52(1)<br>amended by<br>No. 52/1998<br>s. 218(1).                         |
| (2) If the Authority approves of a person as a manager of a prostitution service providing business it must issue a certificate of approval to that person.   | S. 52(2)<br>amended by<br>No. 52/1998<br>s. 218(1).                         |
| (3) A certificate of approval remains in force for 3 years from the date on which it was issued or renewed unless it is sooner surrendered or cancelled.  | S. 52(3)<br>amended by<br>No. 47/1997<br>s. 27(1).                          |
| (4) If at any time while a certificate of approval is in force the licensee or the approved manager becomes aware of a change that has occurred in the information provided at any time by the licensee or the approved manager in, or in relation to, an application under section 50(1), the licensee or the approved manager must within 10 days after becoming so aware give particulars of the change to the Authority by writing signed by him or her.<br><br>Penalty applying to this sub-section: 60 penalty units. | S. 52(4)<br>amended by<br>Nos 47/1997<br>s. 27(2),<br>52/1998<br>s. 218(1). |
| (5) Sections 46A, 46B and 46C apply in respect of approvals given under sub-section (1) in the same way and to the same extent as they do in relation to licences with any necessary modifications.   | S. 52(5)<br>inserted by<br>No. 52/1998<br>s. 218(2).                        |

**52A. *Surrender of approval***

S. 52A  
inserted by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 28.



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S. 52A(1)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 219(1).

(1) Subject to sub-section (2), an approved manager may at any time by notice in writing to the Authority surrender the approval.

S. 52A(2)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 219(2).

(2) If the Tribunal has determined to conduct an inquiry under section 54 in relation to an approved manager, the approved manager may not, without leave of the Tribunal, surrender the approval unless the Tribunal has determined to take action under section 54A or has determined not to take any such action.

S. 52A(3)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 219(1).

(3) The person who held an approval that has been surrendered must return the certificate of approval to the Authority within 14 days of surrendering it.

Penalty: 10 penalty units.

**53. Cancellation of approval**

S. 53(1)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 220(1).

(1) The Tribunal must cancel an approval under section 52(1) if it is satisfied that since the issue or last renewal of the certificate of approval—

S. 53(1)(a)  
amended by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 29(1)(a).

(a) the approved manager has been convicted or found guilty of an offence against the **Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981** or against a law of another State or of a Territory of the Commonwealth which the Governor in Council, by Order published in the Government Gazette, declares to be a law that makes provision substantially similar to the provisions of that Act or against a corresponding law within the meaning of that Act; or

S. 53(1)(ab)  
inserted by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 29(1)(b).

(ab) the approved manager has been convicted or found guilty of an offence that is set out in Schedule 3; or

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s. 53

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- (b) the approved manager has been convicted or found guilty of an indictable offence punishable by imprisonment for 12 months or more or of an offence which, if committed in Victoria, would have been an indictable offence punishable by imprisonment for 12 months or more; or
- (c) the approved manager has served a sentence of imprisonment, whether in Victoria or outside Victoria.
- \* \* \* \* \*
- (3) The Tribunal may act under sub-section (1) on the application of the Chief Commissioner of Police.
- (4) An approval is automatically cancelled if since the giving of the approval—
- (a) the approved manager has become an insolvent under administration; or
- (b) the approved manager has become a represented person within the meaning of the **Guardianship and Administration Act 1986**.

S. 53(1)(b) amended by No. 47/1997 s. 29(1)(c).

S. 53(1)(c) amended by No. 47/1997 s. 29(1)(d).

S. 53(2) repealed by No. 47/1997 s. 29(2).

S. 53(3) amended by No. 47/1997 s. 29(3), substituted by No. 52/1998 s. 220(2).

S. 53(4) inserted by No. 52/1998 s. 220(2).

**54. Disciplinary action against approved manager**

S. 54 substituted by No. 47/1997 s. 30.

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S. 54(1)  
substituted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 221(1).

- (1) The Chief Commissioner of Police or an authorised officer of the responsible authority may apply at any time to the Tribunal to conduct an inquiry to determine whether there are grounds for taking action under section 54A against an approved manager.

S. 54(2)  
repealed by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 221(2).

\* \* \* \* \*

S. 54(3)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 221(3)(a).

- (3) There are grounds for taking action under section 54A if the Tribunal is satisfied that—

(a) the approved manager has been convicted or found guilty of any offence against this Act or the regulations; or

(b) the approved manager has been convicted or found guilty of an offence against the regulations made under section 146 of the **Health Act 1958**; or

S. 54(3)(c)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 221(3)(b).

(c) the prostitution providing business has been managed in such a way that it is desirable that action should be taken against the approved manager; or

(d) an offence under the **Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981** or an indictable offence punishable by imprisonment for 12 months or more has been committed on premises of which the approved manager is manager; or

(e) the approved manager has been charged with any offence referred to in—

(i) section 53(1)(a) or (b); or

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(ii) paragraph (a), (b) or (d) of this sub-section; or

(iii) Schedule 3; or

(f) the approved manager has contravened this Act or the regulations.

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S. 54(4)  
repealed by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 221(2).

\* \* \* \* \*

S. 54(5)  
repealed by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 221(2).

**54A. *Disciplinary powers of Board***

S. 54A  
inserted by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 30.

(1) In addition to any other powers of the Tribunal under this Act it may, if satisfied that there are grounds for taking action against an approved manager under this section, by order do one or more of the following—

S. 54A(1)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 222(1)(a)(b).

(a) reprimand the approved manager;

\* \* \* \* \*

S. 54A(1)(b)  
repealed by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 222(1)(c).

(c) order the approved manager to pay into the Fund a penalty of up to \$10 000;

S. 54A(1)(c)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 222(1)(d).

(d) impose any condition or restriction on the approval;

(e) require the approved manager to enter into an undertaking to perform, or not to perform,

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- certain tasks to be specified in the undertaking;
- S. 54A(1)(f) repealed by No. 52/1998 s. 222(1)(e). (f) require the approved manager to comply within, or for, a specified time with a requirement specified by the Tribunal;
- S. 54A(1)(g) substituted by No. 52/1998 s. 222(1)(f). (g) cancel the approval or suspend the approval for a specified period not exceeding one year;
- (h) order that the approved manager be ineligible to hold an approval or be a licensee either permanently or temporarily.
- S. 54A(2) amended by No. 52/1998 s. 222(2). (2) Despite anything to the contrary in sub-section (1), the only action that the Tribunal may take solely on the ground set out in section 54(3)(e) is to suspend the approval.
- S. 54A(3) amended by No. 52/1998 s. 222(2). (3) If the Tribunal orders the payment of an amount under sub-section (1)(b) or (c)—
- (a) it may order that the amount be paid by a specified date; and
- (b) if the amount is not paid by that date, it may suspend the approval until the amount is paid and set a final payment date; and
- (c) if the amount has not been paid by that final date, it may cancel the approval; and
- (d) it may extend any period of time it sets under paragraph (a) or (b) at any time.
- S. 54A(4) amended by No. 52/1998 s. 222(2). (4) The Tribunal may suspend or cancel an approval under sub-section (3) without giving the approved manager a chance to be heard.
- (5) Subject to sub-section (6), a suspension imposed under sub-section (1) solely on the ground set out
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in section 54(3)(e) remains in force until the approval—

- (a) is surrendered; or
- (b) is cancelled.

S. 54A(5)(b) substituted by No. 52/1998 s. 222(3).

\* \* \* \* \*

S. 54A(5)(c) repealed by No. 52/1998 s. 222(3).

(6) The Tribunal must immediately remove a suspension referred to in sub-section (5) if—

- (a) the charge is withdrawn; or
- (b) the approved manager is not found guilty of the offence on the hearing and determination of the charge; or
- (c) any finding of guilt made, and any conviction recorded, on the hearing and determination of the charge is set aside on appeal.

S. 54A(6) amended by No. 52/1998 s. 222(2).

(7) The cancellation or suspension of an approval has no effect on any permit in force under the **Planning and Environment Act 1987** for a use or development of land for the purposes of the prostitution service providing business managed by the approved manager or on any action which might be taken under that or any other Act or law in respect of a contravention of a condition of such a permit.

**Division 6—Register**

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**55. Licence and approvals register**

S. 55(1)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 223(1).

(1) The Registrar must enter in a register full particulars of—

S. 55(1)(a)  
amended by  
Nos 47/1997  
s. 31(1)(a),  
52/1998  
s. 223(2)(a).

(a) the granting, surrender, cancellation or suspension of a licence;

S. 55(1)(aa)  
inserted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 223(2)(b).

(aa) any statements lodged under section 46A;

(b) the address of the premises at which a prostitution service providing business is being or is to be carried on;

S. 55(1)(c)  
amended by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 31(1)(b).

(c) the granting, renewal, surrender, cancellation or suspension of an approval of a person as a manager of a prostitution service providing business.

S. 55(2)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 223(3)(a).

(2) The register referred to in sub-section (1) may be inspected, and a copy of an entry in it obtained, at the office of the Authority during office hours—

S. 55(2)(a)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 223(3)(b).

(a) free of charge, by the Director of Fair Trading, an authorised member of the police force or an authorised officer of the responsible authority;

(b) on payment of the prescribed fee, by any other person.

S. 55(3)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 223(1).

(3) The Registrar may correct an error or omission in the register by—

(a) inserting an entry; or

(b) amending an entry; or

(c) omitting an entry—

if he or she decides that the correction is necessary.

(4) The Registrar may make the correction on his or her own initiative or on the application of any person.

S. 55(4)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 223(1).

(5) On making a correction the Registrar must record in the register the date on which it was made.

S. 55(5)  
amended by  
Nos 47/1997  
s. 31(2),  
52/1998  
s. 223(1).

### **Division 7—Applications for review**

Pt 3 Div. 7  
(Heading and  
s. 56)  
substituted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 224.

#### **56. Applications for review**

(1) A person whose interests are affected by a decision of the Authority under section 39, 40, 47, 52 or 53 may apply to the Tribunal for review of that decision.

S. 56  
amended by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 32(a)–(d),  
substituted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 224.

(2) An application for review must be made within 28 days after the later of—

(a) the day on which the decision is made; or

(b) if, under the **Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 1998**, the person requests a statement of reasons for the decision, the day on which the statement of reasons is given to the person or the person is informed under section 46(5) of that Act that a statement of reasons will not be given.

### **Division 8—Offences**



**57. *Licensee not to carry on business with unlicensed partner etc.***

- (1) A licensee must not carry on business as a prostitution service provider in partnership with, or otherwise in association with, a person who is not also licensed to carry on that business.

Penalty: 120 penalty units or imprisonment for 12 months or both.

- (2) For the purposes of sub-section (1) a person carries on a business in association with another person if he or she would be an associate of that person for the purposes of section 37(1)(d) or (e) or is directly receiving any income from a business carried on by that person.

**58. *Power to require licensee, etc. to state name and address***

A licensee or approved manager must not, in response to a request to state his or her name and address made to him or her at his or her place of business by a member of the police force—

- (a) refuse or fail to comply with the request; or  
(b) state a name that is false in a material particular; or  
(c) state an address other than the full and correct address of his or her ordinary place of residence or business.

Penalty: 20 penalty units.

S. 58  
amended by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 33.

**59. *Power to require person to state age***

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*Prostitution Control Act 1994*

*Act No. 102/1994*

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- (1) If a member of the police force has reason to believe that a person in a brothel appears to be under the age of 18 years, he or she may demand particulars of the person's age.
- (2) If the member of the police force considers that any particulars supplied by a person in response to a demand under sub-section (1) are false, he or she may require the person to give satisfactory evidence of the correctness of the particulars.
- (3) A person must not—
  - (a) refuse or fail to give particulars of his or her age; or
  - (b) give any false particulars of his or her age; or
  - (c) supply any false evidence as to his or her age—

in response to a demand under sub-section (1).

Penalty: 20 penalty units.

**60. *Display of licence***

- (1) A licensee must keep his or her licence displayed in a conspicuous place near the front entrance to his or her place of business as a prostitution service provider.

Penalty: 10 penalty units.

- (2) A licensee must not display on the premises at which he or she carries on business as a prostitution service provider a document falsely purporting to be a licence.

Penalty: 10 penalty units.

S. 61  
amended by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 34.

**61. *Production of licence or certificate of approval***

A licensee or approved manager must not, without reasonable excuse, refuse or fail to produce his or her licence or certificate of approval to an authorised member of the police force or an authorised officer of the responsible authority if that member or officer demands him or her to do so.

Penalty: 10 penalty units.

**Division 9—Powers of Entry**

**62. *Entry to licensed premises by police***

S. 62(1)  
amended by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 32(1).

- (1) A member of the police force of or above the rank of inspector (accompanied by any other member or members of the police force that he or she considers necessary) may at any time enter and inspect any premises at which a licensee, or a person exempted by section 23 from the requirement to hold a licence, is carrying on business as a prostitution service provider.
- (2) If entry is refused or delayed, the member or members of the police force may break, enter and inspect the premises.
- (3) A person must not—
  - (a) prevent or attempt to prevent a member of the police force from entering or inspecting premises under a power conferred by this section; or
  - (b) obstruct a member of the police force in the exercise of such a power.

Penalty: 120 penalty units or imprisonment for 12 months or both.

*Prostitution Control Act 1994*

*Act No. 102/1994*

s. 63

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- (4) The member of the police force in charge of the operation must, within 7 days after exercising a power conferred by this section, report to the Director of Fair Trading and the Authority in the form and manner approved by the Director of Fair Trading or the Authority (as the case requires) particulars of the exercise of that power.
- (5) Nothing in this section authorises a member of the police force to enter and inspect a part of any premises that is used solely as a residence unless the occupier of the residence has consented in writing to the entry and inspection.

S. 62(4)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 225(a)(b).

S. 62(5)  
inserted by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 32(2).

**63. *Entry to unlicensed premises—search warrant***

- (1) A member of the police force of or above the rank of inspector may apply to a magistrate for the issue of a search warrant in relation to particular premises if the member believes on reasonable grounds that a person is carrying on business at those premises as a prostitution service provider in contravention of section 22(1) or 24(1).
- (2) If the magistrate to whom the application is made is satisfied by evidence on oath, whether oral or by affidavit, that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that a person is carrying on business at the premises as a prostitution service provider in contravention of section 22(1) or 24(1), the magistrate may issue a search warrant.
- (3) A search warrant issued under this section must be directed to the applicant for it and must authorise him or her to enter the premises, or the part of premises, named or described in the warrant to search for any article, thing or material of a kind named or described in the warrant which there is reasonable ground to believe will afford evidence as to the commission of an offence against section 22(1) or 24(1).

- (4) In addition to any other requirement, a search warrant issued under this section must state—
  - (a) any conditions to which the warrant is subject; and
  - (b) whether entry is authorised to be made at any time of the day or night or during stated hours of the day or night; and
  - (c) a date, not being later than 7 days after the date of issue of the warrant, on which the warrant ceases to have effect.
- (5) A search warrant must be issued in accordance with the **Magistrates' Court Act 1989** and in the form prescribed under that Act.
- (6) The rules to be observed with respect to search warrants mentioned in the **Magistrates' Court Act 1989** extend and apply to warrants under this section.

**64. *Entry to unlicensed premises—without search warrant***

- (1) If outside office hours a member of the police force of or above the rank of inspector believes on reasonable grounds that a person is carrying on business at particular premises as a prostitution service provider in contravention of section 22(1) or 24(1) and that relevant evidence is likely to be lost if entry to the premises is delayed until a search warrant is obtained, the member may authorise entry to the premises in accordance with the procedure set out in sub-section (2).
  - (2) The member of the police force referred to in sub-section (1) must—
    - (a) in writing—
      - (i) set out the grounds for the belief—
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- (A) that an unlicensed person is carrying on business at the premises as a prostitution service provider; and
- (B) that relevant evidence is likely to be lost if entry to the premises is delayed until a search warrant is obtained; and
- (ii) name or describe the premises; and
- (iii) name the member or members of the police force being authorised to enter the premises; and
- (b) without delay transmit a copy of the writing by facsimile machine to the office of the principal registrar of the Magistrates' Court and to the office of the Authority; and
- (c) issue to the member or members of the police force named in the writing a copy of it signed by the authorising member of the police force.
- (3) No entry to premises is authorised under this section until after the requirements of sub-section (2) have been complied with.
- (4) An entry authority authorises the member or members of the police force named in it—
- (a) to break, enter and search the premises named or described in the warrant for any article, thing or material which there is reasonable ground to believe will afford evidence as to the commission of an offence against section 22(1) or 24(1); and
- (b) to bring the article, thing or material before the Magistrates' Court so that the matter may be dealt with according to law; and

S. 64(2)(b)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 226.

- (c) to arrest any person apparently having possession, custody or control of the article, thing or material.
- (5) The member or members of the police force acting under an entry authority must cause any person arrested under sub-section (4)(c) to be brought before a bail justice or the Magistrates' Court within a reasonable time of being arrested to be dealt with according to law.
- (6) A person arrested under sub-section (4)(c) may be discharged from custody on bail under section 10 of the **Bail Act 1977**.
- (7) In determining what constitutes a reasonable time for the purposes of sub-section (5) the matters specified in section 464A(4) of the **Crimes Act 1958** may be considered.
- (8) For the purposes of sub-section (4)(b) an article, thing or material that is bulky or cumbersome may be brought before the Magistrates' Court by giving evidence on oath to the Court as to the present whereabouts of the article, thing or material and by producing a photograph of it.
- (9) The Magistrates' Court may direct that any article, thing or material seized under an entry authority be returned to its owner, subject to any condition that the Court thinks fit, if in the opinion of the Court it can be returned consistently with the interests of justice.
- (10) A person acting under an entry authority is not to be taken to be a trespasser from the beginning only because of a defect or error in it.

**65. *Admissibility of evidence obtained under entry authority***

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*Prostitution Control Act 1994*  
*Act No. 102/1994*

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A court hearing a proceeding for an offence against section 22(1) or 24(1) must rule as inadmissible as part of the prosecution case any evidence obtained under an entry authority if the court is satisfied that the requirements of section 64 were not complied with.

**Division 10—Miscellaneous**

**66. Prostitution Control Board Fund**

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|--|---|
| (1) There shall be kept in the Trust Fund under the <b>Financial Management Act 1994</b> , a trust account to be called the Prostitution Control Fund. | S. 66(1)<br>substituted by<br>No. 52/1998<br>s. 227(1).   |
| (2) Into the Fund must be paid—  |   |
| (a) all fees paid under this Act;  |   |
| (b) all fines or penalties paid in respect of an offence against this Act;   |   |
| (c) all other money received by the Authority under this Act;  | S. 66(2)(c)<br>substituted by<br>No. 52/1998<br>s. 227(2).  |
| (d) all other money required under this Act to be paid into the Fund.  | S. 66(2)(d)<br>inserted by<br>No. 52/1998<br>s. 227(2).   |
| (3) Subject to any directions given by the Minister under sub-section (4), the following may be paid out of the Fund—                                  |   |
| (a) any fees paid under this Act that, in accordance with this Act or the regulations, are required to be refunded; and                                | S. 66(3)<br>amended by<br>Nos 99/1995<br>s. 33(1),<br>47/1997 s. 35,<br>substituted by<br>No. 52/1998<br>s. 227(3). |
| (b) the costs and expenses incurred in the administration of this Act.   |   |
| (4) The Minister may give to the Authority written directions in relation to the purposes for which the Authority may spend money in exercising its    | S. 66(4)<br>amended by<br>No. 52/1998<br>s. 227(4)(a)(b).   |
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functions under this Act and the extent to which the Authority may spend money for any particular purpose.

### **67. Advisory Committee**

S. 67(1)  
substituted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 228(1).

- (1) There shall be appointed an Advisory Committee consisting of persons appointed by the Governor in Council on the recommendation of the Minister.

S. 67(1A)  
inserted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 228(1).

- (1A) The functions of the Advisory Committee are—
- (a) to advise the Minister on issues related to the regulation and control of the prostitution industry in Victoria;
  - (b) to monitor the general operation of the prostitution control industry in Victoria;
  - (c) to liaise with the police force so as to assist the police force in carrying out its functions in relation to prostitution;
  - (d) to refer relevant matters for investigation by the WorkCover Authority, the Australian Taxation Office or the Commonwealth Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs or any other body;
  - (e) to assist organisations involved in helping prostitutes to leave the industry;
  - (f) to develop educational programmes about the prostitution industry for magistrates, police and community workers;
  - (g) to disseminate information about the dangers (including dangers to health) inherent in prostitution, especially street prostitution.
- (2) The Advisory Committee may seek information from the Board about relevant issues and trends.
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*Prostitution Control Act 1994*

*Act No. 102/1994*

s. 67

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- (3) The members of the Advisory Committee shall include—
- (a) persons with knowledge of the prostitution industry in Victoria; and
  - (b) persons who are representative of religious or community interests.
- (4) In recommending people for appointment as Committee members, the Minister must have regard to the desirability of ensuring that the Committee is comprised of both women and men.
- (5) A member is appointed for the term (not exceeding 5 years) specified in the instrument of appointment and is eligible for re-appointment.
- (6) A member is entitled to any travelling and other allowances approved by the Minister in respect of him or her.
- (7) The Governor in Council shall appoint one of the members as chairperson.
- (8) The Governor in Council may remove a member from office.
- (9) The Committee may regulate its own meeting procedure.
- (10) The **Public Sector Management and Employment Act 1998** (except in accordance with Part 7 of that Act) does not apply to a member in respect of the office of member.
- (11) The Advisory Committee is subject to the direction of the Minister in carrying out its functions under sub-section (1A)(b), (e), (f) and (g).
- (12) The Advisory Committee must, as soon as practicable after the end of each year, prepare a report on its operations during that year and submit it to the Minister.

S. 67(10)  
substituted by  
No. 46/1998  
s. 7(Sch. 1).

S. 67(11)  
inserted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 228(2).

S. 67(12)  
inserted by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 228(2).

### 68. *Regulations*

The Governor in Council may make regulations for or with respect to—

S. 68(a)  
repealed by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 229(a).

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(b) matters or things to be included in, or to accompany, applications made under this Part;

S. 68(c)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 229(b).

(c) particulars of matters required to be given or reported to the Authority;

(d) requirements to be complied with by a prostitution service provider to ensure the safety of persons working in the business;

S. 68(e)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 229(b).

(e) matters to be considered by the Authority in determining the suitability of an applicant for a licence;

(f) prescribing fees;

S. 68(fa)  
inserted by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 33(2).

(fa) the refund, in whole or in part, of fees paid under this Act;

(g) prescribing forms;

(h) generally prescribing any other matter or thing required or permitted by this Part to be prescribed or necessary to be prescribed to give effect to this Part.

### Division 11—Transitional

#### 69. *Transitional (licence)*

*Prostitution Control Act 1994*

*Act No. 102/1994*

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- (1) In this section "**appointed day**" means the day on which section 22(1) comes into operation.
- (2) A person who immediately before the appointed day was—
  - (a) carrying on a business of a kind referred to in the definition of "brothel" in section 3 in respect of which there was or were then in force such permit or permits as was or were then required under the **Planning and Environment Act 1987** to authorise the use of the land for the purposes of that business; or
  - (b) carrying on business as an escort agency—  
must, on and from that day, be deemed to hold a licence.
- (3) Sub-section (2) ceases to apply to a person on the expiry of 3 months beginning with the appointed day unless the person has during that period applied under section 33 for a licence in which case it ceases to apply on whichever of the following events occurs last—
  - (a) the Board grants a licence on the application;
  - (b) if the Board refuses to grant a licence on the application—
    - (i) the period allowed by section 56 for appealing to the Supreme Court expires without an appeal having been instituted; or
    - (ii) if an appeal to the Supreme Court is instituted—
      - (A) it is withdrawn; or

*Prostitution Control Act 1994*

*Act No. 102/1994*

s. 70

S. 69(3)(b)  
(ii)(B)  
amended by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 36(1).

(B) a Master refuses the application for an order under Rule 58.09 of the General Rules of Procedure in Civil Proceedings 1996 and the period allowed by rules of court for appealing to a Judge against the refusal expires without an appeal having been brought or, if an appeal is brought, it is withdrawn or the refusal to make the order is affirmed; or

(C) it is heard and determined by a Judge and the case is remitted to the Board for re-hearing with or without any direction in law and, on the remittal, the Board grants a licence or again refuses to grant a licence; or

S. 69(3)(b)  
(ii)(D)  
amended by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 36(2).

(D) it is dismissed and the period allowed by rules of court for appealing to the Court of Appeal expires without an appeal having been brought or, if an appeal to the Court of Appeal is brought, it is discontinued or abandoned or is finally disposed of.

**70. Transitional (manager approval)**

- (1) In this section "**appointed day**" means the day on which section 49(1) comes into operation.
- (2) A person who immediately before the appointed day was managing on behalf of another person a business of a kind referred to in section 69(2) must, on and from that day, be deemed to hold an approval under section 52(1).
- (3) Sub-section (2) ceases to apply to a person on the expiry of 3 months beginning with the appointed

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day unless the licensee has during that period applied under section 50(1) for the approval of that person as a manager of the prostitution service providing business in which case it ceases to apply on whichever of the following events occurs last—

- (a) the Board approves of that person as a manager on the application;
- (b) if the Board refuses to approve of that person as a manager on the application—
  - (i) the period allowed by section 56 for appealing to the Supreme Court expires without an appeal having been instituted; or
  - (ii) if an appeal to the Supreme Court is instituted—
    - (A) it is withdrawn; or
    - (B) a Master refuses the application for an order under Rule 58.09 of the General Rules of Procedure in Civil Proceedings 1996 and the period allowed by rules of court for appealing to a Judge against the refusal expires without an appeal having been brought or, if an appeal is brought, it is withdrawn or the refusal to make the order is affirmed; or
    - (C) it is heard and determined by a Judge and the case is remitted to the Board for re-hearing with or without any direction in law and, on the remittal, the Board approves, or again refuses to

**S. 70(3)(b)  
(ii)(B)  
amended by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 37(1).**

*Prostitution Control Act 1994*

*Act No. 102/1994*

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**s. 70**

**S. 70(3)(b)  
(ii)(D)  
amended by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 37(2).**

approve, of that person as a manager; or

- (D) it is dismissed and the period allowed by rules of court for appealing to the Court of Appeal expires without an appeal having been brought or, if an appeal to the Court of Appeal is brought, it is discontinued or abandoned or is finally disposed of.
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**PART 4—PLANNING CONTROLS ON BROTHELS**

**Division 1—Definitions**

**71. Definitions**

Words and expressions used in this Part have the same meanings as they have in the **Planning and Environment Act 1987**.

**Division 2—Permits**

**72. Restriction on certain permit applications**

Despite anything to the contrary in the **Planning and Environment Act 1987**, an application for a permit for a use or development of land for the purposes of the operation of a brothel may only be made by—

- (a) a licensee; or
- (b) a person or two persons intending to rely on an exemption under section 23(1) from the requirement to hold a licence.

S. 72(b)  
amended by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 34.

**73. Matters to be considered by responsible authority**

Without limiting section 60 of the **Planning and Environment Act 1987**, before deciding on an application for a permit for a use or development of land for the purposes of the operation of a brothel, the responsible authority must consider—

- (a) any other brothel in the neighbourhood;
- (b) the effect of the operation of a brothel on children in the neighbourhood;
- (c) except in the case of land within the area of the City of Melbourne bounded by Spring, Flinders, Spencer and LaTrobe Streets, whether the land is within 200 metres of a

S. 73(c)  
amended by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 35.



- place of worship, hospital, school, kindergarten, children's services centre or of any other facility or place regularly frequented by children for recreational or cultural activities and, if so, the effect on the community of a brothel being located within that distance of that facility or place;
- (d) other land use within the neighbourhood involving similar hours of operation and creating similar amounts of noise or traffic (including pedestrian traffic);
  - (e) any guidelines about the size or location of brothels issued by the Minister administering the **Planning and Environment Act 1987**;
  - (f) the amenity of the neighbourhood;
  - (g) the provision of off-street parking;
  - (h) landscaping of the site;
  - (i) access to the site;
  - (j) the proposed size of the brothel and the number of people that it is proposed will be working in it;
  - (k) the proposed method and hours of operation of the brothel.

**74. Restriction on granting of permits**

- (1) The responsible authority must refuse to grant a permit for a use or development of land for the purposes of the operation of a brothel if—
    - (a) the land is within an area that is zoned by a planning scheme as being primarily for residential use; or
    - (b) the land is within 100 metres or, in the case of land within the area of the City of Melbourne bounded by Spring, Flinders,
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- Spencer and LaTrobe Streets, 50 metres of a dwelling other than a caretaker's house; or
- (c) except in the case of land within the area of the City of Melbourne bounded by Spring, Flinders, Spencer and LaTrobe Streets, the land is within 200 metres of a place of worship, hospital, school, kindergarten, children's services centre or of any other facility or place regularly frequented by children for recreational or cultural activities; or
  - (d) unless there exists special circumstances as set out in guidelines issued by the Minister administering the **Planning and Environment Act 1987**, more than 6 rooms in the proposed brothel are to be used for prostitution.
- (2) For the purposes of sub-section (1) distances are to be measured according to any route which reasonably may be used in travelling.
- (3) Despite section 71, in this section "**development**" does not include—
- (a) the exterior alteration or exterior decoration of a building; and
  - (b) the demolition or removal of a building or works.

***75. Persons not to have interest in more than one unexpired permit***

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*Prostitution Control Act 1994*  
*Act No. 102/1994*

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**S. 75(1)**  
substituted by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 36(1),  
amended by  
No. 48/1997  
s. 70(10).

- (1) A person must not have at any one time an interest in more than one unexpired permit granted for the use of land for the purposes of the operation of a brothel, being a permit under which the use has started.

Penalty: Level 6 imprisonment (5 years maximum) or 600 penalty units or both.

**S. 75(2)**  
amended by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 36(2).

- (2) For the purposes of sub-section (1), a person has an interest in a permit if the permit was granted in respect of land owned by that person or an associate of that person, whether alone or jointly with any other person.
- (3) For the purposes of this section two persons are associated if one is—
- (a) a spouse or defacto partner of the other; or
  - (b) a business partner of the other; or
  - (c) a person who has entered into a business arrangement or relationship with the other in respect of the use, occupation, management or otherwise of land; or
  - (d) directly receiving any income derived from a business carried on by the other; or
  - (e) a body corporate and the other is a related body corporate within the meaning of section 9 of the Corporations Law.

**S. 75(4)**  
inserted by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 36(3).

- (4) For the purposes of this section two persons are not associated only because one has borrowed money from the other (being a bank as defined in section 5 of the Banking Act 1959 of the Commonwealth or a bank constituted under a law of a State or a financial body within the meaning of the AFIC (Victoria) Code) and the repayment of the debt is secured by a mortgage over or in respect of land owned by the debtor.

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- (5) An offence against sub-section (1) is an indictable offence.

S. 75(5)  
inserted by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 36(3).

**76. Transitional provision**

- (1) An application for a permit that was made under the **Planning and Environment Act 1987** before the commencement of this Division but which had not been determined before that commencement must be determined under that Act as affected by this Division.
- (2) An application, in accordance with a condition of the permit, for an extension of a temporary use permit granted under the **Planning and Environment Act 1987** before the commencement of this Division must be determined under that Act as if this Act had not been enacted, whether the application is made before or after the commencement of this Division.

**Division 3—Application of Planning and Environment Act 1987**

**77. Offences under Planning and Environment Act 1987**

- (1) Despite section 127 of the **Planning and Environment Act 1987**, a person who is convicted or found guilty of an offence against section 126 of that Act in relation to land used or developed for the purposes of the operation of a brothel is liable to—
- (a) a penalty of—
- (i) not more than 60 penalty units for a first offence; or
- (ii) not more than 90 penalty units for a second or subsequent offence; and

- (b) if the contravention or failure constituting the offence is of a continuing nature, a further penalty of not more than 6 penalty units for each day during which the contravention or failure continues after the conviction or finding.
- (2) If a person is convicted or found guilty of an offence referred to in sub-section (1), the court may declare that the person or an associate of the person is not eligible, for a period of up to 10 years specified by the court, to hold a permit granted by a responsible authority under the **Planning and Environment Act 1987** for a use or development of land for the purposes of the operation of a brothel.
- (3) For the purposes of sub-section (2) two persons are associated if one is—
- (a) a spouse or defacto partner of the other; or
  - (b) a business partner of the other; or
  - (c) a person who has entered into a business arrangement or relationship with the other in respect of the use, occupation, management or otherwise of land; or
  - (d) directly receiving any income derived from a business carried on by the other; or
  - (e) a body corporate and the other—
    - (i) is a director or secretary of the body corporate or a spouse or defacto partner of such a director or secretary; or
    - (ii) holds or will hold any relevant financial interest, or is or will be entitled to exercise any relevant power (whether in his or her own right or on behalf of any other person), in the business of the body corporate and thereby is able or
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will be able to exercise a significant influence over or with respect to the management or operation of that business; or

(iii) holds or will hold any relevant position (whether in his or her own right or on behalf of any other person) in the business of the body corporate; or

(f) a body corporate and the other is a related body corporate within the meaning of section 9 of the Corporations Law or a director or secretary, or a spouse or defacto partner of a director or secretary, of a related body corporate.

**78. Powers of entry**

Section 134(1) of the **Planning and Environment Act 1987** (what must be done before entry) does not apply to an entry of land that an authorised person believes on reasonable grounds is being used for the purposes of the operation of a brothel.

**Division 4—Miscellaneous**

**79. Regulations**

The Governor in Council may make regulations for or with respect to any matter or thing required or permitted by this Part to be prescribed or necessary to be prescribed to give effect to this Part.

**PART 5—PROSCRIBED BROTHELS**

**80. Declaration of proscribed brothel**

- (1) The Magistrates' Court may declare premises to be a proscribed brothel if it is satisfied on the balance of probabilities—
  - (a) on the application of an authorised member of the police force, that a person carrying on business as a prostitution service provider in contravention of section 22(1) is making those premises available for the purpose of prostitution; or
  - (ab) on the application of an authorised member of the police force, that a person is carrying on business on those premises in contravention of section 21A(1)(b); or
  - (b) on the application of an authorised officer of the responsible authority, that they are being used for the purposes of the operation of a brothel and that there has not been granted, or is not in force, in respect of them any permit required under the **Planning and Environment Act 1987** for their use or development for those purposes.
- (2) An authorised officer of the responsible authority may only apply under sub-section (1)(b) with respect to premises that he or she believes on reasonable grounds are being used for the purposes of the operation of a brothel and that there has not been granted, or is not in force, in respect of them any permit required under the **Planning and Environment Act 1987** for their use or development for those purposes.
- (3) The Magistrates' Court may only make a declaration under sub-section (1) if it is satisfied

S. 80(1)(ab)  
inserted by  
No. 73/1996  
s. 72(1).

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that notice of the application was at least 72 hours before the hearing—

- (a) served on the owner or occupier of the premises which are the subject of the application; or
- (b) published in a newspaper generally circulating in the area in which the premises are situated.

(3A) On the hearing of an application under sub-section (1), the Magistrates' Court may take into consideration any evidence which it considers credible or trustworthy in the circumstances.

S. 80(3A)  
inserted by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 38.

(4) For the purposes of sub-section (3)(a) a notice is sufficiently served on the owner or occupier of premises if it is posted in a prepaid letter addressed to "the owner" or "the occupier" (without name or further description) and bearing such an address or description of the premises as should ensure the delivery of the letter at those premises.

(5) A declaration under sub-section (1) may be made for an unlimited period or for a period specified by the Magistrates' Court and the declaration remains in force accordingly unless it is sooner rescinded.

**81. *Publication of declaration***

(1) As soon as possible after the making of a declaration under section 80(1) the Chief Commissioner of Police (if the application for it was made by a member of the police force) or the responsible authority (if the application for it was made by one of its officers)—

- (a) must cause a notice of the making of the declaration to be published on two days in a



- newspaper generally circulating in the area in which the premises are situated; and
- (b) must cause a notice of the making of the declaration to be served personally on the owner or the occupier, or a mortgagee, of the premises; and
  - (c) must cause a copy of the declaration to be posted up at or near to the entrance to the premises so as to be visible and legible to any person entering them.
- (2) If, in the opinion of the Chief Commissioner or an authorised officer of the responsible authority (as the case requires), personal service as required by sub-section (1)(b) cannot be promptly effected, the notice may be sufficiently served for the purposes of that sub-section by posting it in a prepaid letter addressed to "the owner" or "the occupier" (without name or further description) and bearing such an address or description of the premises as should ensure the delivery of the letter at those premises.
- (3) A person must not cover, remove, deface or destroy a copy of a declaration posted up under sub-section (1)(c).
- Penalty: 60 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.
- (4) In a proceeding under this Part the production of a copy of a newspaper containing a notice published under sub-section (1)(a) is evidence and, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, is proof that the notice was duly published in that newspaper on the date appearing on that newspaper.

**82. Offences with respect to proscribed brothels**

- (1) A person must not be found in or entering or leaving premises in respect of which there is in
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force a declaration declaring those premises to be a proscribed brothel notice of the making of which was published in accordance with section 81(1)(a).

Penalty: 60 penalty units or imprisonment for 12 months.

- (2) In a proceeding for an offence against sub-section (1) it is a defence to the charge for the accused to prove that he or she was in or entering or leaving the premises in ignorance of the making of the declaration or for some lawful purpose.
- (3) In a proceeding for an offence against sub-section (1), the accused cannot as a defence to the charge rely on the fact that—
  - (a) the Chief Commissioner of Police or the responsible authority (as the case requires) has failed to comply with section 81(1); or
  - (b) a declaration posted up under section 81(1)(c) has been covered, removed, defaced or destroyed.
- (4) If any premises in respect of which there is in force a declaration declaring those premises to be a proscribed brothel are used as a brothel at any time after service of notice of the making of the declaration on the owner or occupier in accordance with section 81(1)(b), the owner or occupier (as the case requires) is guilty of an offence and liable to a penalty of not more than 120 penalty units or to imprisonment for not more than 12 months.
- (5) In a proceeding for an offence against sub-section (4) it is a defence to the charge for the accused to prove that he or she took all reasonable steps to prevent the premises being used as a brothel.

**83. Police powers with respect to proscribed brothels**

- (1) An authorised member of the police force may without warrant apprehend and take before a bail justice or the Magistrates' Court to be dealt with according to law any person whom he or she finds in or entering or leaving premises in respect of which there is in force a declaration declaring those premises to be a proscribed brothel notice of the making of which has been published in accordance with section 81(1)(a).
- (2) An authorised member of the police force may at any time—
  - (a) enter any premises to which sub-section (1) applies; or
  - (b) pass through or over any other land or building in order to enter those premises—and for that purpose may break open doors, windows or partitions on those premises or do any other acts on those premises that may be necessary.
- (3) An authorised member of the police force exercising a power under sub-section (2) must, on request, produce—
  - (a) evidence of his or her status as an authorised member of the police force; and
  - (b) a copy of the declaration declaring the premises to be a proscribed brothel.

**84. Rescission of declaration**

- (1) The Magistrates' Court may rescind a declaration made under section 80(1) and may do so on any terms, conditions, limitations or restrictions that it thinks fit which may include the giving of security to ensure that the premises are not again—
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- (a) made available for the purpose of prostitution by a person carrying on business in contravention of section 22(1); or
  - (ab) used for the purposes of the operation of a brothel in contravention of section 21A(1)(b); or
  - (b) used for the purposes of the operation of a brothel without there being in force in respect of them any permit required under the **Planning and Environment Act 1987** for their use or development for those purposes.
- (2) The Magistrates' Court may act under sub-section (1) on the application of—
- (a) the owner or the occupier, or a mortgagee, of the declared premises; or
  - (b) an authorised member of the police force; or
  - (c) an authorised officer of the responsible authority.
- (3) The Magistrates' Court may only rescind a declaration under sub-section (1) on an application made under sub-section (2)(a) if it is satisfied that notice of the application was at least 72 hours before the hearing served on a superintendent or inspector of police stationed within the police district in which the declared premises are situated and on the responsible authority.

S. 84(1)(ab)  
inserted by  
No. 73/1996  
s. 72(2).

**85. *Proof of declaration or rescission***

- (1) The Magistrates' Court must cause notice of the making of a declaration under section 80(1) or of its rescission under section 84(1) to be published in the Government Gazette.

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- (2) Notice of rescission published under sub-section (1) must include any terms, conditions, limitations or restrictions imposed by the Court.
  - (3) In a proceeding under this Part the production of a copy of the Government Gazette containing a notice published under sub-section (1) is evidence and, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, is proof that the declaration or rescission was duly made.
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**PART 6—GENERAL**

**86. *Offences by bodies corporate***

If a body corporate commits an offence against this Act, any officer of the body corporate who was in any way, by act or omission, directly or indirectly, knowingly concerned in or party to the commission of the offence is also guilty of that offence and liable to the penalty for it, irrespective of whether the body corporate has itself been prosecuted for, or convicted or found guilty of, the offence.

**87. *Secrecy***

(1) The following are bound by this section—

S. 87(1)  
amended by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 37(1).

(a) a member of the Advisory Committee;

S. 87(1)(a)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 230(a).

(b) a member of the police force;

(c) any person employed under Part 3 of the **Public Sector Management and Employment Act 1998** or any other person whose services are being made use of by the Advisory Committee.

S. 87(1)(c)  
amended by  
Nos 46/1998  
s. 7(Sch. 1),  
52/1998  
s. 230(b).

(2) A person bound by this section must not directly or indirectly, except in the exercise of powers or performance of functions under or in connection with this Act, make a record of, or divulge to any person, any information concerning a person acquired in the exercise of those powers or performance of those functions.

S. 87(2)  
amended by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 37(2)(a)(b).

Penalty: 60 penalty units.

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*Act No. 102/1994*

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s. 87

**S. 87(3)**  
**substituted by**  
**No. 99/1995**  
**s. 37(3).**

- (3) Nothing in sub-section (2) prevents a person bound by this section from—
- (a) producing a document containing specified information, or divulging specified information, to such persons as the Minister directs if the Minister certifies that it is necessary in the public interest that the document should be so produced or the information should be so divulged; or
  - (b) producing a document containing information, or divulging information, to a prescribed authority or a prescribed class of person or the holder of a prescribed office; or
  - (c) producing a document containing information, or divulging information, to a person who is expressly or impliedly authorised by the person to whom the information relates to obtain it.

**S. 87(4)**  
**inserted by**  
**No. 99/1995**  
**s. 37(3).**

- (4) An authority or person to whom a document containing information is produced or information is divulged under sub-section (3), and a person or employee under the control of that authority or person, is subject, in respect of that information, to the same rights, privileges, obligations and liabilities under this section as if that authority, person or employee were a person performing functions under this Act and had acquired the information in the performance and those functions.

**S. 87(5)**  
**inserted by**  
**No. 99/1995**  
**s. 37(3).**

- (5) Subject to sub-sections (6) and (7), a person bound by this section is not, except for the purposes of this Act, required—
- (a) to produce in a court a document that has come into his or her possession or under his or her control; or

(b) to divulge to a court any information that has come to his or her notice—

in the exercise of powers or performance of functions under or in connection with this Act.

(6) If—

(a) the Minister certifies that it is necessary in the public interest that specified information should be divulged to a court; or

(b) a person to whom information relates has expressly authorised it to be divulged to a court—

a person bound by this section may be required—

(c) to produce in the court any document containing the information; or

(d) to divulge the information to the court.

(7) A person bound by this section may be required—

(a) to produce in a court a document that has come into his or her possession or under his or her control; or

(b) to divulge to a court any information that has come to his or her notice—

if the court is hearing and determining an indictable offence, including a committal proceeding into an indictable offence and a summary hearing of an indictable offence.

(8) In this section—

**"court"** includes any tribunal, authority or person having power to require the production of documents or the answering of questions;

**"produce"** includes permit access to.

S. 87(6)  
inserted by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 37(3).

S. 87(7)  
inserted by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 37(3).

S. 87(8)  
inserted by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 37(3).

**88. Immunity**



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S. 88(1)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 231(1).

- (1) A member of the police force is not personally liable for anything necessarily or reasonably done or omitted to be done in good faith—
- (a) in the exercise of a power or the performance of a function under or in connection with this Act; or
  - (b) in the reasonable belief that the act or omission was in the exercise of a power or the performance of a function under or in connection with this Act.

S. 88(2)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 231(2).

- (2) If a member of the police force does or omits to do anything—
- (a) negligently in the exercise of a power or performance of a function under or in connection with this Act; or
  - (b) in the reasonable belief that the act or omission was in the exercise of a power or the performance of a function under or in connection with this Act—

and the act or omission is necessary or reasonable in the exercise or intended exercise of that power or the performance or intended performance of that function, any liability that would, but for subsection (1), attach to the person because of that act or omission attaches instead to the Crown.

S. 88A  
inserted by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 38.

**88A. *Destruction of fingerprints etc.***

S. 88A(1)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 232.

- (1) The Chief Commissioner of Police must destroy any fingerprints obtained by the Authority or an authorised member of the police force under this Act and referred to the Chief Commissioner, and any record, copy or photograph of them, or cause

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them to be destroyed as soon as he or she has no further use for them.

Penalty: 10 penalty units.

- (2) The Chief Commissioner of Police is to be considered to have no further use for fingerprints when—
- (a) they were obtained in connection with an application for a licence or the approval of a person as a manager of a prostitution service providing business and the application is refused; or
  - (b) the licence or approval in connection with which they were obtained is cancelled or not renewed.
- (3) A person who in connection with an application for a licence or the approval of a person as a manager of a prostitution service providing business has possession of fingerprints obtained by the Authority or an authorised member of the police force under this Act, or of a record, copy or photograph of them, must deliver them to the Chief Commissioner of Police, in accordance with his or her directions, so as to enable the Chief Commissioner to comply with sub-section (1).

S. 88A(3)  
amended by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 232.

Penalty: 10 penalty units.

**89. *Evidentiary provisions***

- (1) If—
- (a) a person's age at a particular time is material in any proceeding for an offence against this Act; and

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(b) it is asserted on behalf of the prosecution that the person was at that time under the age of 18 years—

it must be presumed, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, that the person's age at that time was the age that is so asserted.

S. 89(2)  
amended by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 39.

- (2) A certificate in the prescribed form purporting to be signed by the registrar certifying as to any matter that appears in or can be deduced from the register referred to in section 24 or 55(1) is admissible in evidence in any proceeding and, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, is proof of the matters contained in it.
- (3) A certificate purporting to be signed by the Chief Commissioner of Police certifying that a member of the police force named in it is an authorised member of the police force within the meaning of this Act is admissible in evidence in any proceeding and, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, is proof of the matter contained in it.
- (4) A certificate purporting to be issued by the responsible authority certifying that an officer of the responsible authority named in it is an authorised officer of the responsible authority within the meaning of this Act is admissible in evidence in any proceeding and, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, is proof of the matter contained in it.
- (5) Section 141 of the **Planning and Environment Act 1987** (evidence of planning scheme provisions and permits) applies to proceedings under this Act in the same manner and to the same extent as it applies to proceedings under that Act.
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**90. Regulations**

- (1) A power conferred by this Act to make regulations may be exercised—
- (a) either in relation to all cases to which the power extends, or in relation to all those cases subject to specified exceptions, or in relation to any specified case or class of case; and
  - (b) so as to make, as respects the cases in relation to which the power is exercised—
    - (i) the same provision for all cases in relation to which the power is exercised, or different provisions for different cases or classes of case, or different provisions for the same case or class of case for different purposes; or
    - (ii) any such provision either unconditionally or subject to any specified condition.
- (2) Regulations made under this Act may be made—
- (a) so as to apply—
    - (i) at all times or at a specified time; or
    - (ii) throughout the whole of the State or in a specified part of the State; or
    - (iii) as specified in both sub-paragraphs (i) and (ii); and
  - (b) so as to require a matter affected by the regulations to be—
    - (i) in accordance with a specified standard or specified requirement; or

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- (ii) approved by or to the satisfaction of a specified person or a specified class of person; or
- (iii) as specified in both sub-paragraphs (i) and (ii); and
- (c) so as to apply, adopt or incorporate any matter contained in any document whatsoever whether—
  - (i) wholly or partially or as amended by the regulations; or
  - (ii) as in force at the time the regulations are made or at any time before then; and
- (d) so as to confer a discretionary authority or impose a duty on a specified person or a specified class of person; and
- (e) so as to provide in a specified case or class of case for the exemption of people or things or a class of people or things from any of the provisions of the regulations, whether unconditionally or on specified conditions and either wholly or to such an extent as is specified; and
- (f) so as to impose a penalty not exceeding 40 penalty units for a contravention of the regulations.

S. 90(2)(e)  
amended by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 39.

S. 90(2)(f)  
inserted by  
No. 99/1995  
s. 39.

**PART 7—TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS**

Pt 7 (Heading and ss 91–98) substituted as Pt 7 (Heading and s. 91) by No. 47/1997 s. 40.

**91. *Prostitution Control (Amendment) Act 1997***

S. 91 substituted by No. 47/1997 s. 40.

- (1) The Prostitution Control Board is to be taken to be the same body in spite of changes to its structure made by the **Prostitution Control (Amendment) Act 1997** and no act, proceeding, matter or thing is to be affected because of those changes of structure.
- (2) The amendments made by section 6 of the **Prostitution Control (Amendment) Act 1997** to section 24(6) apply with respect to any application made before the commencement of section 6 by a person whose name appears in the register referred to in section 24 for the omission of that person's entry from the register in addition to each application made after that commencement.
- (3) The amendments made by section 22 of the **Prostitution Control (Amendment) Act 1997** to section 47(1) apply only in relation to a licensee who has been convicted or found guilty of an offence to which section 47(1)(ab) refers that occurred after the commencement of section 22.
- (4) The amendments made by section 29 of the **Prostitution Control (Amendment) Act 1997** to section 53(1) apply only in relation to an approved manager convicted or found guilty of an offence to which section 53(1)(ab) refers that occurred after the commencement of section 29.

s. 92

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**Ss 92-98**  
**repealed by**  
**No. 47/1997**  
**s. 40.**

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*Prostitution Control Act 1994*  
*Act No. 102/1994*

Sch. 1

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**SCHEDULES**

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Sch. 1  
amended by  
Nos 47/1997  
s. 41, 46/1998  
s. 7(Sch. 1),  
repealed by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 233.

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Sch. 2  
amended by  
Nos 47/1997  
s. 42, 46/1998  
s. 7(Sch. 1),  
repealed by  
No. 52/1998  
s. 233.

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Sch. 3  
inserted by  
No. 47/1997  
s. 43.

**SCHEDULE 3**

Sections 47(1) and 53(1)

**DISCIPLINARY OFFENCES**

1. An offence against any of the following sections of the Migration Act 1958 of the Commonwealth—

<i>Section</i>	<i>Description of offence</i>
233	(Persons concerned in bringing non-citizens into Australia in contravention of Act or harbouring illegal entrants)
234	(False papers etc.)
235	(Offences in relation to work)
236	(Offences relating to visas)
240	(Offence to arrange marriage to obtain permanent residence)
241	(Offence to arrange pretended de facto relationship to obtain permanent residence)
242	(Offence to arrange interdependency relationship to obtain permanent residence)
243	(Offences relating to an application for permanent residence because of marriage or de facto relationship)
244	(Offences relating to application for permanent residence because of interdependency)
245	(Offences of making false or unsupported statements)
280	(Restrictions on giving of immigration assistance)
281	(Restriction on charging fees for immigration assistance)
282	(Restriction on charging fees for immigration representatives)
283	(False representation that a person is a registered agent)
284	(Restriction on self-advertising of the giving of immigration assistance)
285	(Restriction on other advertising of immigration assistance)

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Sch. 3

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2. An offence against the following section of the Crimes Act 1914 of the Commonwealth—

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<i>Section</i>	<i>Description of offence</i>
29B	(False representation).

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**NOTES**

**1. General Information**

*Minister's second reading speech—*

*Legislative Assembly: 21 October 1994*

*Legislative Council: 29 November 1994*

The long title for the Bill for this Act was "A Bill to reform the law relating to prostitution, to repeal the **Prostitution Regulation Act 1986** and the **Town and Country Planning (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1961**, to amend the **Crimes Act 1958**, the **Evidence Act 1958** and the **Travel Agents Act 1986** and to make consequential amendments to certain other Acts and for other purposes."

The **Prostitution Control Act 1994** was assented to on 13 December 1994 and came into operation as follows:

Sections 1, 2 on 13 December 1994: section 2(1); rest of Act on 13 June 1995: section 2(3).

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Notes

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**2. Table of Amendments**

This Version incorporates amendments made to the **Prostitution Control Act 1994** by Acts and subordinate instruments.

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**Miscellaneous Acts (Health and Justice) Amendment Act 1995, No. 99/1995**

*Assent Date:* 5.12.95  
*Commencement Date:* 5.12.95  
*Current State:* All of Act in operation

**Children's Services Act 1996, No. 53/1996**

*Assent Date:* 3.12.96  
*Commencement Date:* S. 60 on 1.6.98: Government Gazette 28.5.98 p. 1189  
*Current State:* This information relates only to the provision/s amending the **Prostitution Control Act 1994**

**Miscellaneous Acts (Further Omnibus Amendments) Act 1996, No. 73/1996**

*Assent Date:* 17.12.96  
*Commencement Date:* Pt 20 (ss 68–73) on 17.12.96: s. 2(1)  
*Current State:* This information relates only to the provision/s amending the **Prostitution Control Act 1994**

**Prostitution Control (Amendment) Act 1997, No. 47/1997**

*Assent Date:* 11.6.97  
*Commencement Date:* Ss 4–43 on 28.10.97: Government Gazette 9.10.97 p. 2820  
*Current State:* This information relates only to the provision/s amending the **Prostitution Control Act 1994**

**Sentencing and Other Acts (Amendment) Act 1997, No. 48/1997**

*Assent Date:* 11.6.97  
*Commencement Date:* S. 70 on 1.9.97: s. 2(2)  
*Current State:* This information relates only to the provision/s amending the **Prostitution Control Act 1994**

**Public Sector Reform (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 1998, No. 46/1998**

*Assent Date:* 26.5.98  
*Commencement Date:* S. 7(Sch. 1) on 1.7.98: s. 2(2)  
*Current State:* This information relates only to the provision/s amending the **Prostitution Control Act 1994**

**Tribunals and Licensing Authorities (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 1998, No. 52/1998**

*Assent Date:* 2.6.98  
*Commencement Date:* Ss 193–233 on 1.7.98: Government Gazette 18.6.98 p. 1512  
*Current State:* This information relates only to the provision/s amending the **Prostitution Control Act 1994**

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**3. Explanatory Details**

<sup>1</sup> S. 47(2)(f) (*repealed*): Section 73 of the **Miscellaneous Acts (Further Omnibus Amendments) Act 1996**, No. 73/1996 reads as follows:

***73. Transitional provision***

The Principal Act as amended by section 71 applies in relation to—

- (a) contraventions of that Act irrespective of whether they occurred before or after the commencement of that section; and
- (b) licences irrespective of whether they were granted before or after the commencement of that section.