THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE AMENDMENT BILL 2014

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by authority of the
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
the Hon Bronwyn Bishop, MP)
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OUTLINE

The Parliamentary Service Amendment Bill 2014 amends the *Parliamentary Service Act 1999* to provide that the Commissioner of the Australian Federal Police (AFP), or a Deputy Commissioner or a senior executive AFP employee who is nominated by the Presiding Officers, may be a member of the Security Management Board. The Security Management Board is established under section 65A of the Act. The Bill also amends the existing function of the Board to include the operation of security measures.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The Bill has no financial impact.
STATEMENT OF COMPATIBILITY WITH HUMAN RIGHTS

Prepared in accordance with Part 3 of the Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Act 2011

NAME OF BILL

This Bill is compatible with the human rights and freedoms recognised or declared in the international instruments listed in section 3 of the Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Act 2011.

Objective of the Bill

The Security Management Board for the Australian Parliament House is established under section 65A of the Parliamentary Service Act 1999 (the Act). The Parliamentary Service Amendment Bill 2014 amends the Act to provide that the Commissioner of the Australian Federal Police (AFP), or a Deputy Commissioner or a senior executive AFP employee who is nominated by the Presiding Officers, may be a member of this Board. The Bill also amends the existing function of the Board to include the operation of security measures.

The Bill inserts a new paragraph (d) into subsection 65A(2) of the Act to provide that the Commissioner of the AFP may be a member of the Security Management Board. New paragraph (d) also provides that a Deputy Commissioner or a senior executive AFP employee (within the meaning of the Australian Federal Police Act 1979) who is nominated by the Presiding Officers, may also be a member of this Board, instead of the Commissioner.

Additionally, the Bill amends subsection 65A(5) of the Act to include in the remit of the Security Management Board, ‘operational measures’.

Human rights implications

The Bill does not engage any of the applicable rights or freedoms.

Conclusion

This Bill is compatible with human rights as it does not raise any human rights issues.

Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Hon Bronwyn Bishop MP
NOTES ON CLAUSES

Clause 1: Short title

1. This clause is a formal clause which provides the citation of the Bill.

Clause 2: Commencement

2. This clause provides that the Bill will commence on the day after the Act receives the Royal Assent.

Clause 3: Schedules

3. This clause provides that each Act specified in a Schedule to the Bill is amended or repealed as set out in the applicable items in the Schedule concerned, and any other item in a Schedule to the Bill has effect according to its terms.
SCHEDULE 1—Amendments

Parliamentary Service Act 1999

Item 1: At the end of subsection 65A(2)

Subsection 65A(1) of the Parliamentary Service Act 1999 (the Act) establishes the Security Management Board. Subsections 65A(2), (3) (4) and (5) of the Act provide for the membership, chair and function of this Board.

This item inserts a new paragraph (d) into subsection 65A(2). New subparagraph 65A(2)(d)(i) provides that the Commissioner of the Australian Federal Police may be a member of the Security Management Board.

New subparagraph 65A(d)(ii) further provides that a Deputy Commissioner or a senior executive employee of the AFP (within the meaning of the Australian Federal Police Act 1979) who is nominated by the Presiding Officers, may also be a member of the Board, instead of the Commissioner.

Item 2: Subsection 65A(5)

This item inserts the words “or operation” into subsection 65A(5) of the Act to include in the remit of the Security Management Board, ‘operational measures’.