

# Human Reproductive Technology Amendment Bill 2003

---

## CONTENTS

---

1.	Short title	1
2.	Commencement	2
3.	The Act amended	2
4.	Preamble amended	2
5.	Section 3 amended	3
6.	Section 3A inserted	8
7.	Section 4 amended	9
8.	Section 5A inserted	9
9.	Section 6 amended	10
10.	Section 7 amended	11
11.	Section 14 amended	12
12.	Section 17 amended	14
13.	Section 18 amended	15
14.	Section 20 amended	16
15.	Section 21 amended	16
16.	Section 22 amended	18
17.	Section 23 amended	21
18.	Section 24 amended	21
19.	Section 25 amended	23
20.	Section 26 amended	24
21.	Section 27 amended	26
22.	Section 28 amended	27
23.	Section 28A inserted	27
24.	Section 29 amended	28
25.	Section 30 amended	28
26.	Section 32 amended	29
27.	Section 33 amended	29
28.	Section 40 amended	31

Contents

---

29.	Section 41 amended	31
30.	Section 44 amended	31
31.	Section 45 amended	33
32.	Section 48 amended	33
33.	Section 49 amended	34
34.	Section 51 amended	36
35.	Section 53 amended	37
36.	Part 4B inserted	37
37.	Section 54 amended	62
38.	Section 56 amended	63
39.	Section 57 amended	63
40.	Section 59 amended	64

Western Australia

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

*(As amended in Committee)*

**Human Reproductive Technology Amendment  
Bill 2003**

**A Bill for**

**An Act to amend the *Human Reproductive Technology Act 1991*.**

The Parliament of Western Australia enacts as follows:

**1. Short title**

This Act may be cited as the *Human Reproductive Technology Amendment Act 2003*.

**s. 2**

---

**2. Commencement**

This Act comes into operation on a day fixed by proclamation.

**3. The Act amended**

The amendments in this Act are to the *Human Reproductive Technology Act 1991*\*.

[\*Act No. 22 of 1991.  
For subsequent amendments see *Western Australian Legislation Information Tables for 2002, Table 1, p. 177.*]

**4. Preamble amended**

- 10 (1) Paragraph B of the Preamble is amended as follows:
- (a) by deleting “egg in the process of fertilisation or” in the first place where it occurs;
  - (b) by inserting before “disease” —  
“ a ”;
  - 15 (c) by deleting “by giving an egg in the process of fertilisation or an embryo all reasonable opportunities for implanting”.
- (2) Paragraph C of the Preamble is amended as follows:
- 20 (a) by deleting “non harmful research and diagnostic procedures upon an egg in the process of fertilisation or an embryo” and inserting instead —  
“  
research procedures and other uses upon a human  
embryo  
25 ”;
  - (b) by deleting “egg in the process of fertilisation or an” in the second place where it occurs.
- (3) Paragraph D of the Preamble is deleted.

**5. Section 3 amended**

(1) Section 3(1) is amended in the definition of “authorised officer” as follows:

(a) after paragraph (b) by deleting “and”;

5 (b) after paragraph (c) by inserting —

“

and

10 (d) in relation to the powers referred to in section 54, a person on whom the powers are conferred by the Commissioner of Health under section 53ZQ(4);

”.

(2) Section 3(1) is amended in the definition of “biological parent” as follows:

15 (a) in paragraph (a) by deleting “an egg or sperm” and inserting instead —

“ a human egg or human sperm ”;

(b) in paragraph (b) by deleting “an embryo” and inserting instead —

20 “ a human embryo ”.

(3) Section 3(1) is amended in the definition of “fertilisation” by deleting “with the appearance of a two-cell zygote;” and inserting instead —

“ when an embryo is formed; ”.

25 (4) Section 3(1) is amended in the definition of “in vitro fertilisation procedure” as follows:

(a) in paragraph (a) by deleting “an egg” in the first place where it occurs and inserting instead —

“ a human egg ”;

**s. 5**

---

- (b) in paragraph (a)(ii) by deleting “an egg in the process of fertilisation or an embryo” and inserting instead —

“

a human egg undergoing fertilisation or  
a human embryo

”;

- (c) in paragraph (a)(iii) by deleting “egg in the process of fertilisation or embryo” and inserting instead —

“

human egg undergoing fertilisation or  
human embryo

”;

- (d) by deleting paragraph (b)(i) and inserting instead the following subparagraph —

“

- (i) a human egg;

”;

- (e) in paragraph (b)(ii) by deleting “an egg in the process of fertilisation or an embryo, whether produced by that woman or by another woman and” and inserting instead —

“

a human egg undergoing fertilisation or  
a human embryo,

”.

- (5) Section 3(1) is amended in the definition of “Institutional Ethics Committee” by deleting paragraph (b) and inserting instead —

“

- (b) functions, and a composition, complying with requirements of the NHMRC relating to ethical oversight of research involving humans;

”.

(6) Section 3(1) is amended in the definition of “licensee” as follows:

(a) by deleting “this Act” and inserting instead —  
“ Part 4 ”;

5 (b) by inserting before paragraph (a) the following paragraph —

“

(aa) a person who holds an exemption under section 28A;

10

”;

(c) in paragraph (b) by deleting “person responsible,” and inserting instead —

“ licence supervisor, ”.

(7) Section 3(1) is amended in paragraph (a)(ii) of the definition of “participant” by deleting “gametes, of an egg in the process of fertilisation, or of an embryo” and inserting instead —

15

“

human gametes, of a human egg  
undergoing fertilisation or of a human  
embryo

20

”.

(8) Section 3(1) is amended in paragraph (b) of the definition of “reproductive technology” as follows:

(a) by deleting “gametes” and inserting instead —  
“ human gametes ”;

25

(b) by deleting “eggs in the process of fertilisation or embryos;” and inserting instead —

“

human eggs undergoing fertilisation or  
human embryos;

30

”.

**s. 5**

---

- (9) Section 3(1) is amended by deleting the definitions of “chimaera”, “cloning”, “embryo”, “embryo flushing”, “exemption”, “parthenogenesis” and “person responsible”.
- (10) Section 3(1) is amended by deleting the full stop at the end of the definition of “treatment” and inserting instead a semicolon.
- (11) Section 3(1) is amended by inserting in the appropriate alphabetical positions the following definitions —

“

10           **“Commonwealth Human Embryo Act”** means the *Research Involving Human Embryos Act 2002* of the Commonwealth;

**“excess ART embryo”** has the meaning given to that term in section 53T;

**“exemption”** means —

- 15           (a) an exemption that is applied for and is not refused, or is specifically issued, under section 28; or
- (b) an exemption under section 28A;

**“human egg”** means a live human egg;

20           **“human embryo”** has the meaning given to that term in section 3A;

**“human gamete”** means a human egg or a human sperm;

25           **“human sperm”** means live human sperm or spermatids;

**“licence supervisor”**, in relation to a licence or exemption, means the individual under whose supervision the storage or practice authorised is, or is to be, carried on;

30           **“NHMRC”** means the National Health and Medical Research Council established by the *National Health and Medical Research Council Act 1992* of the Commonwealth;



“**NHMRC licence**” means a licence granted under —

- (a) section 53ZB; or
- (b) section 21 of the Commonwealth Human Embryo Act;

5 “**summary conviction penalty**”, in relation to a crime, has the same meaning as that term has in section 5 of *The Criminal Code*;

“**woman**” means any female human.

”.

10 (12) Section 3(2) is amended as follows:

- (a) by inserting after “This Act” —  
“ , other than Part 4B ”;
- (b) by deleting “an egg in the process of fertilisation or an embryo” and inserting instead —

15 “  
a human egg undergoing fertilisation or a human embryo  
”;

- (c) by deleting paragraph (b) and inserting instead —

20 “  
(b) only if the egg or the embryo has been or is developed in consequence of an in vitro fertilisation procedure.  
”.

25 (13) Section 3(3) is amended as follows:

- (a) by deleting paragraph (a);
- (b) in paragraph (b) —
  - (i) by deleting “an egg,” and inserting instead —  
“ a human egg, ”; and
  - (ii) by deleting “an egg in the process of fertilisation;” and inserting instead —  
“ a human egg undergoing fertilisation; ”;

30

**s. 6**

---

(c) in paragraph (d) by deleting “sperm” and inserting instead —  
“ human sperm ”.

(14) Section 3(4) is amended as follows:

5 (a) by deleting “gametes, an egg in the process of fertilisation or any embryo,” and inserting instead —

“

human gametes, a human egg undergoing fertilisation or a human embryo

10

”;

(b) in paragraph (b) by deleting “gametes which are, or egg, egg in the process of fertilisation or embryo” and inserting instead —

“

15

human gametes which are or a human egg or embryo

”.

(15) Section 3(5) is amended by deleting “person responsible” in each place where it occurs and inserting instead —

20

“ licence supervisor ”.

**6. Section 3A inserted**

After section 3 the following section is inserted —

“

**3A. Meaning of “human embryo”**

25

(1) In this Act —

“**human embryo**” means a live embryo that has a human genome or an altered human genome and that has been developing for less than 8 weeks since the appearance of 2 pro-nuclei or the initiation of its development by other means.

30

- 5 (2) For the purposes of the definition of “human embryo”  
in subsection (1), in working out the length of the  
period of development of a human embryo, any period  
when the development of the embryo is suspended is to  
be disregarded.

”.

**7. Section 4 amended**

- 10 (1) Section 4 is amended as follows:
- (a) by inserting before “The” the subsection designation  
“(1)”;
  - (b) by deleting “The” and inserting instead —  
“ Generally, the ”.

- (2) At the end of section 4 the following subsection is inserted —  
“

- 15 (2) The particular objects of Part 4B are set out in  
section 53S.

”.

**8. Section 5A inserted**

20 After section 5 the following section is inserted into Part 1  
Division 2 —

“

**5A. Application**

25 This Division does not apply in relation to an excess  
ART embryo except in relation to a use of such an  
embryo that is an exempt use as defined in  
section 53W(2).

”.

**9. Section 6 amended**

(1) Section 6(1) is amended as follows:

- (a) in paragraph (a)(i) by deleting “an egg” and inserting instead —  
5 “ a human egg ”;
  - (b) in paragraph (a)(ii) by deleting “an egg in the process of” and inserting instead —  
“ a human egg undergoing ”;
  - (c) in paragraph (a)(iii) by deleting “an embryo;” and  
10 inserting instead —  
“ a human embryo; ”;
  - (d) in paragraph (b) by deleting “sperm,” and inserting instead —  
“ human sperm, ”;
  - (e) by deleting “or” after paragraph (b);
  - (f) by deleting the comma at the end of paragraph (c) and inserting instead —  
“  
; or  
20 (d) any other use, outside the body of a woman, of a human embryo, if the use is not for a purpose relating to the reproductive technology treatment of the woman,  
”.
- (2) Section 6(2) and (3) are repealed and the following subsection is inserted instead —  
“  
25 (2) A person who contravenes subsection (1) commits a crime and is liable to imprisonment for 5 years.  
30 Summary conviction penalty: Imprisonment for one year.  
”.

**10. Section 7 amended**

(1) Section 7(1) is amended as follows:

(a) by deleting “who causes or permits —” and inserting instead —

5 “ must not cause or permit — ”;

(b) in paragraph (a) by deleting “an egg in the process of fertilisation, or any embryo,” and inserting instead —

10 “  
a human egg undergoing fertilisation, or any embryo,  
”;

(c) after paragraph (a) by inserting “or”;

(d) in paragraph (b) by deleting “an egg in the process of fertilisation, or any embryo,” and inserting instead —

15 “  
a human egg undergoing fertilisation, or any embryo,  
”;

(e) by deleting the semicolon at the end of paragraph (b) and inserting instead a full stop;

20

(f) by deleting paragraphs (c) to (j);

(g) by deleting “commits an offence.”.

(2) Section 7(2), (3) and (4) are repealed and the following subsection is inserted instead —

25 “  
(2) A person who contravenes subsection (1) commits a crime and is liable to imprisonment for 5 years.  
Summary conviction penalty: Imprisonment for  
30 one year.  
”.

**s. 11**

---

(3) Section 7(5) is amended as follows:

(a) in paragraph (a) by deleting “any gametes, or any egg in the process of fertilisation or embryo” and inserting instead —

5

“

human gametes, a human egg undergoing fertilisation or a human embryo

”;

(b) by deleting “\$10 000 or”.

10 **11. Section 14 amended**

(1) Section 14(1) is amended as follows:

(a) in paragraph (c) by deleting “person responsible” and inserting instead —

“ licence supervisor ”;

15

(b) in paragraph (e)(i) by deleting “egg” and inserting instead —

“ human egg ”;

(c) in paragraph (e)(ii) by deleting “gametes” and inserting instead —

20

“ human gametes ”;

(d) in paragraph (e)(iii) by deleting “egg in the process of” and inserting instead —

“ human egg undergoing ”;

(e) in paragraph (e)(iv) by deleting “embryo” and inserting instead —

25

“ human embryo ”.

(2) Section 14(2) is repealed and the following subsections are inserted instead —

“

30

(2) Subsection (1)(e)(iv) does not apply in relation to an excess ART embryo except in relation to the use of

such an embryo that is an exempt use as defined in section 53W(2).

(2a) The Council must not grant approval to any research being conducted upon or with a human embryo unless —

(a) the embryo is intended for use in the reproductive technology treatment of a woman and the Council is satisfied, on the basis of existing scientific and medical knowledge, that the research is unlikely to leave the embryo unfit to be implanted in the body of a woman; or

(b) the research consists of a use referred to in section 53W(2)(b) or (f).

(2b) The Council must not grant approval to any diagnostic procedure to be carried out upon or with a human embryo unless —

(a) the embryo is intended for use in the reproductive technology treatment of a woman and the Council is satisfied, on the basis of existing scientific and medical knowledge, that —

(i) the diagnostic procedure is unlikely to leave the embryo unfit to be implanted in the body of a woman; and

(ii) where the diagnostic procedure is for the genetic testing of the embryo, there is a significant risk of a serious genetic abnormality or disease being present in the embryo;

or

(b) the diagnostic procedure consists of a use referred to in section 53W(2)(d) or (f).

”.

**s. 12**

---

(3) Section 14(3)(b) is amended as follows:

- (a) in subparagraph (i) by deleting “National Health and Medical Research Council,” and inserting instead —  
“ NHMRC, ”;
- 5 (b) in subparagraph (ii) by deleting “the Reproductive Technology Accreditation Committee for the Fertility Society of Australia” and inserting instead —  
“ a body referred to in section 29(5)(a)(i) or (ii) ”;
- 10 (c) in subparagraph (iii) by deleting “principal” and inserting instead —  
“ principle ”.

**12. Section 17 amended**

Section 17 is amended as follows:

- 15 (a) by inserting after “prohibit” —  
“  
the mixing in the same artificial fertilisation procedure  
of multiple sources of  
”;
- 20 (b) by deleting paragraphs (a) and (b) and “or” between those paragraphs and inserting instead —  
“  
(a) human gametes;  
(b) human eggs undergoing fertilisation; or  
(c) human embryos,  
25 in such a manner as may create confusion as to the biological parentage of any child born as a result of the procedure.  
”.



**13. Section 18 amended**

(1) Section 18(1) is amended as follows:

- 5 (a) in paragraph (c) by inserting before “gametes” —  
“ human ”;
- (b) in paragraph (c) by deleting “, including their genetic  
modification”;
- (c) in paragraph (d) by deleting “an embryo” and inserting  
instead —  
“ a human embryo ”;
- 10 (d) in paragraph (d) by deleting “any gametes, egg in the  
process of fertilisation or embryo” and inserting  
instead —  
“  
15 human gametes, a human egg undergoing  
fertilisation or a human embryo  
”;
- (e) in paragraph (f) by deleting “gametes, eggs in the  
process of fertilisation or embryos” and inserting  
instead —  
20 “  
human gametes, human eggs undergoing  
fertilisation or human embryos  
”.
- (2) Section 18(2)(a)(ii) is amended by deleting “any gametes, egg  
25 in the process of fertilisation or embryo;” and inserting  
instead —  
“  
30 human gametes, a human egg  
undergoing fertilisation or a human  
embryo;  
”.

**s. 14**

---

**14. Section 20 amended**

(1) Section 20(2)(a) is amended as follows:

(a) in subparagraph (i) by deleting “gametes” and inserting instead —

5 “ human gametes ”;

(b) in subparagraph (ii) by deleting “an egg in the process of fertilisation, or any embryo” and inserting instead —

10 “  
a human egg undergoing fertilisation or  
a human embryo  
”.

(2) After section 20(2) the following subsection is inserted —

15 “  
(2a) Subsection (2)(a)(ii) does not apply in relation to an  
excess ART embryo except in relation to a use of such  
an embryo that is an exempt use as defined in  
section 53W(2).  
”.

**15. Section 21 amended**

20 Section 21 is amended as follows:

(a) in paragraph (c) by deleting “gametes, eggs in the process of fertilisation or embryos” and inserting instead —

25 “  
human gametes, human eggs undergoing  
fertilisation or human embryos  
”;

(b) in paragraph (d) by deleting “gametes, eggs in the process of fertilisation or embryos,” and inserting instead —

30 “  
human gametes, human eggs undergoing  
fertilisation or human embryos,  
”;

(c) in paragraph (f) by deleting “gametes, eggs in the process of fertilisation or embryos;” and inserting instead —

5

“  
human gametes, human eggs undergoing fertilisation or human embryos;  
”;

(d) in paragraph (g) by deleting “gametes, eggs in the process of fertilisation or embryos;” and inserting instead —

10

“  
human gametes, human eggs undergoing fertilisation or human embryos;  
”;

(e) in paragraph (h) by deleting “gametes, eggs in the process of fertilisation or embryos” and inserting instead —

15

“  
human gametes, human eggs undergoing fertilisation or human embryos  
”;

(f) in paragraph (i) by deleting “gametes, egg in the process of fertilisation or embryo” and inserting instead —

25

“  
human gametes, human eggs undergoing fertilisation or human embryos  
”;

(g) in paragraph (j) by deleting “egg in the process of fertilisation or embryo” and inserting instead —

30

“  
human egg undergoing fertilisation or human embryo  
”;

**s. 16**

---

(h) in paragraph (k) by deleting “egg in the process of fertilisation or an embryo” and inserting instead —

“

human egg undergoing fertilisation or human embryo

”.

**16. Section 22 amended**

(1) Section 22(1) is amended as follows:

(a) by deleting “Where by or under this Act consent is required to be given in relation to the use or keeping of any gametes, egg in the process of fertilisation or embryo —” and inserting instead —

“

For the purposes of the licence condition referred to in section 33(2)(e) —

”;

(b) in paragraph (c) by deleting “egg in the process of fertilisation or embryo” and inserting instead —

“

human egg undergoing fertilisation or human embryo

”;

(c) in paragraph (d) by deleting “in the process of fertilisation or an embryo” and inserting instead —

“ undergoing fertilisation or a human embryo ”;

(d) in paragraph (e) by deleting “an egg in the process of fertilisation or an embryo” and inserting instead —

“

a human egg undergoing fertilisation or a human embryo

”;

- (e) after paragraph (e)(i) by inserting the following subparagraphs —

“

5

- (ia) in the case of a use outside the body of a woman, there is an effective consent to the use for that purpose by the woman on whose behalf it is being developed and her spouse or defacto partner, if any;

10

- (ib) in the case of implantation in the body of a woman, there is an effective consent to the implantation by the woman and her spouse or defacto partner, if any;

”.

- (2) Section 22(2) is amended as follows:

15

- (a) by deleting “gametes” in each place where it occurs and inserting instead —

“ human gametes ”;

- (b) by deleting “whether eggs” and inserting instead —

“ whether human eggs ”;

20

- (c) by deleting “sperm” in the first and third places where it occurs and inserting instead —

“ human sperm ”;

- (d) by deleting “egg in the process of fertilisation or embryo” and inserting instead —

25

“

human egg undergoing fertilisation or human embryo

”;

- (e) in paragraph (b) by deleting “an egg in the process of fertilisation, or an embryo,” and inserting instead —

30

“

a human egg undergoing fertilisation or a human embryo,

”;

**s. 16**

---

- (f) in paragraph (b) by deleting “any egg” and inserting instead —  
“ any human egg ”;
- 5 (g) by deleting “where an egg in the process of fertilisation, or an embryo,” and inserting instead —  
“  
where a human egg in the process of fertilisation, or a human embryo,  
”;
- 10 (h) by deleting “particular egg in the process of” and inserting instead —  
“ particular egg undergoing ”.
- (3) Section 22(3) is amended by deleting “gametes, egg in the process of fertilisation or embryo” and inserting instead —  
15 “  
human gametes, human eggs undergoing fertilisation or human embryos  
”.
- (4) Section 22(4) is amended by deleting “gametes, egg in the process of fertilisation or embryo” and inserting instead —  
20 “  
human gametes, a human egg undergoing fertilisation or a human embryo  
”.
- 25 (5) Section 22(5) is repealed and the following subsection is inserted instead —  
“  
30 (5) A consent to the use of a human egg undergoing fertilisation or a human embryo must specify the purposes for which the egg or embryo may be used and may specify conditions subject to which the egg or embryo shall or shall not be used.  
”.

- (6) Section 22(6) is amended by deleting “gametes, egg in the process of fertilisation or embryo” and inserting instead —

“

5

human gametes, a human egg undergoing fertilisation  
or a human embryo

”.

- (7) Section 22(8) is amended by deleting “gametes, egg in the process of fertilisation or embryo” and inserting instead —

“

10

human gametes, a human egg undergoing fertilisation  
or a human embryo

”.

**17. Section 23 amended**

Section 23(a)(ii) is amended by inserting before “disease” —

15

“ a ”.

**18. Section 24 amended**

- (1) Section 24(1) is amended as follows:

- (a) by deleting “any eggs, sperm, egg in the process of fertilisation or embryo —” and inserting instead —

20

“

any human gametes, human egg undergoing  
fertilisation or human embryo —

”;

25

- (b) in paragraph (a) by deleting “an egg in the process of fertilisation or any embryo” and inserting instead —

“ a human embryo ”;

- (c) in paragraph (a) by deleting “egg or embryo” and inserting instead —

30

“

embryo or its probable future use under an  
NHMRC licence

”;

**s. 18**

---

(d) in paragraph (b) by deleting subparagraphs (i), (ii) and (iii) and the “or” between subparagraphs (ii) and (iii) and inserting instead —

“

5

- (i) human gametes;
- (ii) a human egg undergoing fertilisation; or
- (iii) a human embryo,

”;

10

(e) by deleting “no egg in the process of fertilisation or embryo” and inserting instead —

“

no human egg undergoing fertilisation or  
human embryo

”;

15

(f) by deleting “the permitted storage period” and inserting instead —

“ 10 years ”.

(2) Section 24(1a) is amended as follows:

(a) by inserting after “may” —

20

“ , on an application by an eligible person, ”;

(b) by deleting “an egg in the process of fertilisation or an embryo” and inserting instead —

“

25

a human egg undergoing fertilisation or a human  
embryo

”.

(3) Section 24(1c) is amended by deleting “the permitted storage period” and inserting instead —

“ 10 years ”.



- (4) Section 24(2), (3) and (4) are repealed and the following subsections are inserted instead —

“

- (2) In subsection (1a) —

5

“**eligible person**”, in relation to a human egg undergoing fertilisation or a human embryo, means —

10

- (a) a person who is or is to be a participant in an artificial fertilisation procedure in which the egg or embryo is to be used;

- (b) a person for whom the egg or embryo was developed; or

15

- (c) in the case of an excess ART embryo, except in relation to the use of such an embryo referred to in section 10(2)(e) of the Commonwealth Human Embryo Act, the licensee.

20

- (3) Three months before the end of a period of storage permitted under this section the licensee must take reasonable steps to notify each person for whom the human egg undergoing fertilisation or human embryo is being stored.

25

- (4) If a period of storage permitted under this section comes to an end and no application has been made for the extension of the storage period, the licensee may, if the licensee has complied with subsection (3), allow the human egg undergoing fertilisation or the human embryo to succumb and will not be liable to anyone for so doing.

”.

**19. Section 25 amended**

30

Section 25 is amended as follows:

- (a) by deleting “gametes —” and inserting instead —  
“ human gametes — ”;

**s. 20**

---

- (b) in paragraph (a) by deleting “eggs and sperm,” and inserting instead —  
“ human eggs and human sperm, ”;
- 5 (c) in paragraph (b) by deleting “where gametes” and inserting instead —  
“ where human gametes ”;
- (d) in paragraph (b)(i) by deleting “an egg in the process of fertilisation or an embryo” and inserting instead —  
“  
10 a human egg undergoing fertilisation or  
a human embryo  
”;
- (e) in paragraph (c) by deleting “gametes” and inserting instead —  
15 “ human gametes ”.

**20. Section 26 amended**

- (1) Before section 26(1) the following subsection is inserted into section 26 —  
“  
20 (1a) This section does not apply in relation to an excess ART embryo except in relation to the use of such an embryo that is an exempt use as defined in section 53W(2).  
”.
- 25 (2) Section 26(1) is amended as follows:  
(a) by deleting “In” and inserting instead —  
“ Subject to section 24(4), in ”;

- (b) by deleting “egg in the process of fertilisation or embryo” and inserting instead —

“

human egg undergoing fertilisation or human embryo

5

”;

- (c) in paragraph (a) by deleting “for implantation”;  
(d) in paragraph (a) by deleting “an egg in the process of fertilisation or embryo” and inserting instead —

“

a human egg undergoing fertilisation or a human embryo

10

”;

- (e) in paragraph (c) by deleting “gametes an egg in the process of fertilisation or embryo” and inserting instead —

15

“

human gametes, a human egg undergoing fertilisation or a human embryo

20

”;

- (f) in paragraph (c) by deleting “gamete” and inserting instead —

“ human gamete ”;

- (g) in paragraph (c) by deleting “gametes” and inserting instead —

25

“ human gametes ”;

- (h) in paragraph (d) by deleting “an egg in the process of” and inserting instead —

“ a human egg undergoing ”;

- (i) in paragraph (d) by deleting “an embryo” and inserting instead —

30

“ a human embryo ”;

**s. 21**

---

- (j) in paragraph (d) by inserting after “that purpose,” —  
“ the egg may be used ”;
- (k) in paragraph (d) by deleting “it may be donated for the  
purpose of providing treatment for a specific recipient”;
- 5 (l) in paragraph (e) by deleting “an egg in the process of  
fertilisation or in an embryo” and inserting instead —  
“  
a human egg undergoing fertilisation or a  
10 human embryo  
”.
- (3) Section 26(2) is amended by deleting “an egg in the process of  
fertilisation or an embryo” and inserting instead —  
“  
15 a human egg undergoing fertilisation or a human  
embryo  
”.

**21. Section 27 amended**

- (1) Section 27(1)(d) is amended by inserting after “section 28” —  
“ or 28A ”.
- 20 (2) Section 27(2) is amended as follows:
- (a) in paragraph (a)(i) by deleting “egg” and inserting  
instead —  
“ human egg ”;
- 25 (b) in paragraph (a) by deleting subparagraphs (ii) and (iii) and  
the “or” between those paragraphs and inserting instead —  
“  
(ii) any human embryo; or  
(iii) any human egg undergoing fertilisation;  
”;

(c) in paragraph (b) by deleting “sperm” and inserting instead —

“ human sperm ”.

(3) Section 27(4)(a)(v) is amended by deleting “person responsible” and inserting instead —

“ licence supervisor ”.

**22. Section 28 amended**

(1) Section 28(1) is amended by deleting “Act” and inserting instead —

“ Part ”.

(2) Section 28(2) is amended as follows:

(a) in paragraph (a) by deleting “Act” and inserting instead —

“ Part ”;

(b) in paragraph (b) by deleting “person responsible” and inserting instead —

“ licence supervisor ”.

(3) Section 28(3) is amended by deleting “Act” and inserting instead —

“ Part ”.

**23. Section 28A inserted**

After section 28 the following section is inserted —

“

**28A. Exemptions relating to storage of certain embryos**

(1) The Commissioner of Health may, on an application by a person who holds an NHMRC licence grant an exemption from the requirement to hold a licence under this Part to store excess ART embryos to which the NHMRC licence applies.

**s. 24**

---

(2) A person who holds an exemption under subsection (1) is not required to hold a licence under this Part to store the excess ART embryos.

5 (3) A person who holds an exemption under subsection (1) is subject to the disciplinary procedures in relation to that exemption as if the exemption were a licence under this Part and the person were the licence supervisor in relation to that licence.

”.

10 **24. Section 29 amended**

(1) After section 29(5)(a) the following paragraph is inserted —

“

(aa) that the applicant is accredited to carry out reproductive technology by —

15 (i) the Reproductive Technology Accreditation Committee of the Fertility Society of Australia; or

20 (ii) if the regulations prescribe another body or other bodies in addition to, or instead of, the body mentioned in paragraph (a), that other body or any of those other bodies, as the case requires;

”.

25 (2) Section 29(6)(b)(i) is amended by deleting “person responsible” and inserting instead —

“ licence supervisor ”.

**25. Section 30 amended**

Section 30(4) is amended as follows:

30 (a) by deleting “person responsible” and inserting instead —

“ licence supervisor ”;

- (b) in paragraph (a) by deleting “gametes, egg in the process of fertilisation, embryo” and inserting instead —

“

human gametes, a human egg undergoing fertilisation or a human embryo

”.

**26. Section 32 amended**

Section 32(3) is amended by deleting “person responsible” and inserting instead —

“ licence supervisor ”.

**27. Section 33 amended**

- (1) Section 33(2) is amended as follows:

- (a) by deleting “Act” in the first place where it occurs and inserting instead —

“ Part ”;

- (b) in paragraph (a)(i) by deleting “person responsible” and inserting instead —

“ licence supervisor ”;

- (c) in paragraph (b) by deleting “gametes, eggs in the process of fertilisation or embryos,” and inserting instead —

“

human gametes, a human egg undergoing fertilisation or a human embryo,

”;

- (d) by deleting paragraph (e) and inserting instead —

“

(e) that section 22(1) is complied with;

(ea) that the licensee maintains the accreditation required by section 29(5)(a);

”;

**s. 27**

---

- (e) in paragraph (g) by deleting “gametes, egg in the process of fertilisation or embryo” and inserting instead —

“

5 human gametes, a human egg undergoing fertilisation or a human embryo

”.

- (2) Section 33(3) is amended as follows:

- (a) in paragraph (a) by deleting “gametes of a person or an egg in the process of fertilisation or an embryo” and inserting instead —

“

10 human gametes, a human egg undergoing fertilisation or a human embryo

”;

- (b) in paragraph (b) by deleting “an egg in the process of fertilisation or an embryo” and inserting instead —

“

15 a human egg undergoing fertilisation or a human embryo

”;

- (c) in paragraph (c) by deleting “gametes, eggs in the process of fertilisation or embryos” and inserting instead —

“

20 human gametes, human eggs undergoing fertilisation or human embryos

”;

- (d) in paragraph (d) by deleting “gametes, egg in the process of fertilisation or embryo” and inserting instead —

“

30 human gametes, human egg undergoing fertilisation or human embryo

”.



**28. Section 40 amended**

Section 40(1)(f) is amended by deleting “person responsible” and inserting instead —

“ licence supervisor ”.

5 **29. Section 41 amended**

(1) Section 41(2) is amended by deleting “person responsible” and inserting instead —

“ licence supervisor ”.

(2) Section 41(3) is amended as follows:

10 (a) by deleting “egg in the process of fertilisation or any embryo” and inserting instead —

“

human egg undergoing fertilisation or human embryo ”;

15 (b) by deleting “gametes” in the first place where it occurs and inserting instead —

“ human gametes ”.

**30. Section 44 amended**

(1) Section 44(1) is amended as follows:

20 (a) in paragraph (a) by deleting “gametes, eggs in the process of fertilisation and embryos” and inserting instead —

“

human gametes, human eggs undergoing fertilisation or human embryos

25

”;

(b) in paragraph (a)(i) by deleting “gametes,” and inserting instead —

“ human gametes, ”;

**s. 30**

---

(c) by deleting paragraph (a)(ii) and inserting instead the following subparagraph —

“

5

(ii) if human eggs undergoing fertilisation or human embryos, their biological parentage and the date fertilisation commenced;

”;

10

(d) in paragraph (a)(iv) by deleting “gametes, an egg in the process of fertilisation or an embryo was” and inserting instead —

“

15

human gametes, human eggs undergoing fertilisation or human embryos were

”;

20

(e) in paragraph (a)(iv) by deleting “were, or an egg in the process of fertilisation or an embryo was,” and inserting instead —

“

, eggs undergoing fertilisation or embryos were

”;

25

(f) in paragraph (b)(v)(B) by deleting “person responsible” and inserting instead —

“ licence supervisor ”.

(2) Section 44(2) is amended by inserting after “section 28” —

“ or 28A ”.

- (3) Section 44(4)(b) is amended by deleting “gametes, egg in the process of fertilisation or an embryo;” and inserting instead —

“  
5 human gametes, a human egg undergoing  
fertilisation or a human embryo;  
”.

**31. Section 45 amended**

Section 45(1) is amended as follows:

- 10 (a) in paragraph (a)(ii) by deleting “gametes, egg in the  
process of fertilisation or embryo used;” and inserting  
instead —

“  
15 human gametes, human egg undergoing  
fertilisation or human embryo used;  
”;

- (b) after paragraph (d) by deleting the “and” and inserting  
instead —

“  
20 (da) any information obtained from the NHMRC  
Licensing Committee established under  
section 13 of the Commonwealth Human  
Embryo Act in relation to any NHMRC  
licences held or applied for in this State; and  
”.

25 **32. Section 48 amended**

Section 48 is amended by deleting “gametes or an embryo” and  
inserting instead —

“ human gametes or a human embryo ”.

**33. Section 49 amended**

(1) Section 49(1)(a) is amended by deleting “gametes, an egg in the process of fertilisation or an embryo;” and inserting instead —

“  
5                                    human gametes, a human egg undergoing  
   fertilisation or a human embryo;  
   ”.

(2) Section 49(2)(d) is amended by inserting before “with” —  
“ subject to subsections (2a) to (2c), ”.

10 (3) After section 49(2) the following subsections are inserted —  
“

(2a) Information that would identify a child born as a result  
of the relevant procedure who has not reached 16 years  
of age cannot be divulged or communicated under  
15 paragraph (d) of subsection (2) unless each person who  
has given consent for the purposes of that paragraph  
has completed approved counselling before giving that  
consent.

20 (2b) Except as provided in subsection (2c), a child who has  
not reached 16 years of age cannot consent for the  
purposes of paragraph (d) of subsection (2).

25 (2c) A person who has parental responsibility (as defined in  
section 68 of the *Family Court Act 1997*) for the child  
may, after completing approved counselling, consent  
for the purposes of paragraph (d) of subsection (2) on  
behalf of that child and in that case the child is to be  
taken to have consented for the purposes of that  
paragraph.

30 (2d) Subject to subsection (2e), information to which  
subsection (1)(a) applies may be divulged or  
communicated to a child resulting from the donation

who has reached 16 years of age and who has completed approved counselling.

(2e) Information cannot be divulged or communicated under subsection (2d) unless —

5

(a) the donation was made on or after the day on which the *Human Reproductive Technology Amendment Act 2003* came into operation (the “**commencement day**”); or

10

(b) the donation was made before the commencement day and —

15

(i) was used with the effective consent of the donor given on or after the commencement day; or

20

(ii) the Commissioner of Health is satisfied that the donor was, before the donation, adequately informed that future changes in legislation might enable the information to be divulged or communicated to the child without the donor’s consent.

(2f) In subsections (2a), (2c) and (2d) —

25

“**approved counselling**” means counselling approved by the Commissioner of Health in relation to the divulging or communication of information to which subsection (1) applies.

”.

(4) Section 49(3)(a) is amended by deleting “gametes, an egg in the process of fertilisation or an embryo;” and inserting instead —

30

“

human gametes, a human egg undergoing fertilisation or a human embryo;

”.

**34. Section 51 amended**

- (1) Section 51(1)(a) is amended by deleting “person responsible” and inserting instead —  
“ licence supervisor ”.
- 5 (2) Section 51(2) is amended by deleting “person responsible” and inserting instead —  
“ licence supervisor ”.
- (3) Section 51(2)(c) is amended as follows:
- 10 (a) by deleting “gametes, eggs in the process of fertilisation and embryos” and inserting instead —  
“  
human gametes, human eggs undergoing  
fertilisation and human embryos  
”;
- 15 (b) by deleting “gametes or any such eggs” and inserting instead —  
“ any such gametes, eggs ”.
- (4) Section 51(3) is amended by deleting “person responsible” and inserting instead —  
20 “ licence supervisor ”.
- (5) Section 51(5) is amended by deleting “person responsible” in both places where it occurs and inserting instead —  
“ licence supervisor ”.
- 25 (6) Section 51(6) is amended by deleting “person responsible” in both places where it occurs and inserting instead —  
“ licence supervisor ”.
- (7) Section 51(7) is amended by deleting “person responsible” and inserting instead —  
“ licence supervisor ”.

- (8) Section 51(8) is amended by deleting “person responsible” and inserting instead —

“ licence supervisor ”.

**35. Section 53 amended**

- 5 Section 53(1)(b) is amended by deleting “person responsible” and inserting instead —

“ licence supervisor ”.

**36. Part 4B inserted**

Before Part 5 the following Part is inserted —

10 “

**Part 4B — Regulation of certain uses involving  
excess ART embryos**

**Division 1 — General**

**53S. Object of this Part**

15

- (1) The object of this Part is —

20

(a) to address concerns, including ethical concerns, about scientific developments in relation to human reproduction and the utilisation of human embryos by regulating activities that involve the use of certain human embryos created by assisted reproductive technology; and

25

(b) to adopt in this State a uniform Australian approach to the regulation of activities that involve the use of certain human embryos created by assisted reproductive technology.

- (2) For that purpose, this Part contains a number of provisions that are similar to provisions in the Commonwealth Human Embryo Act.

(3) Nothing in this Part or in a licence under this Part authorises or permits the use of an excess ART embryo if that use is not a therapeutic use.

(4) In subsection (3) —

5           **“therapeutic use”**, in relation to an excess ART embryo, means —

(a) its use in, or in connection with —

10           (i) preventing, diagnosing, curing or alleviating a disease, ailment, defect or injury in persons;

(ii) influencing, inhibiting or modifying a physiological process in persons;

(iii) testing the susceptibility of persons to a disease or ailment;

15           (iv) influencing, controlling or preventing conception in persons;

(v) testing for pregnancy in persons; or

(vi) the replacement or modification of parts of the anatomy of persons;

20           (b) a use of it that is prescribed in the regulations and is not inconsistent with a use referred to in paragraph (a); or

25           (c) its use in training or research for the purposes of a use referred to in paragraph (a) or (b).

**53T. Definitions**

(1) In this Part, unless the contrary intention appears —

30           **“AHEC”** means the Australian Health Ethics Committee established by the *National Health and Medical Research Council Act 1992* of the Commonwealth;



**“Commonwealth Human Embryo regulations”**

means the regulations in force under the Commonwealth Human Embryo Act;

**“confer”** includes to impose;

5

**“confidential commercial information”** means information that has a commercial or other value that would be, or could reasonably be expected to be, destroyed or diminished if the information were disclosed;

10

**“corresponding law”** means —

- (a) the Commonwealth Human Embryo Act; or
- (b) an Act of another State that is a corresponding State law as defined in the Commonwealth Human Embryo Act;

15

**“disclose”**, in relation to information, means give or communicate in any way;

**“excess ART embryo”** means a human embryo that —

20

- (a) was created, by assisted reproductive technology, for use in the assisted reproductive technology treatment of a woman; and

25

- (b) is excess to the needs of —
  - (i) the woman for whom it was created; and
  - (ii) her spouse or de facto partner (if any) at the time the embryo was created;

**“HREC”** means a Human Research Ethics Committee;

**“inspector”** means a person appointed as an inspector under section 53ZN(1);

30

**“licence”** means a licence issued under section 53ZB;

**“licensed ART centre”** means a person licensed under Part 4;

**“NHMRC Licensing Committee”** means the Committee of that name established under section 13 of the Commonwealth Human Embryo Act;

- 5 **“proper consent”**, in relation to the use of an excess ART embryo, means —
- 10 (a) consent obtained in accordance with the *Ethical Guidelines on Assisted Reproductive Technology* (1996) issued by the NHMRC;
  - 15 (b) if other guidelines are issued by the NHMRC under the *National Health and Medical Research Council Act 1992* of the Commonwealth and prescribed by the Commonwealth Human Embryo regulations for the purposes of paragraph (b) of the definition of “proper consent” in section 8 of the Commonwealth Human Embryo Act — consent obtained in accordance with those other guidelines, rather than the guidelines mentioned in paragraph (a); or
  - 20 (c) where an intended use is to provide a human embryonic stem cell line, the uses to which the human embryonic stem cell line may be put must have been disclosed and explained;

- 25 **“responsible person”**, in relation to an excess ART embryo, means —
- 30 (a) each person who provided the egg or sperm from which the embryo was created;
  - (b) the woman for whom the embryo was created, for the purpose of achieving her pregnancy;
  - (c) any person who was the spouse or de facto partner of a person mentioned in paragraph (a) at the time the egg or sperm mentioned in that paragraph was provided; and

- (d) any person who was the spouse or de facto partner of the woman mentioned in paragraph (b) at the time the embryo was created;

5                   “**State**” includes the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory.

(2) For the purposes of paragraph (b) of the definition of “excess ART embryo”, a human embryo is excess to the needs of the persons mentioned in that paragraph at a particular time if —

10                   (a) each such person has given written authority for use of the embryo for a purpose other than a purpose relating to the assisted reproductive technology treatment of the woman concerned, and the authority is in force at that time; or

15                   (b) each such person has determined in writing that the embryo is excess to their needs, and the determination is in force at that time.

(3) A reference in this Part to a number of penalty units is a reference to the amount calculated in accordance with the following formula —

**A × B**

where —

25                   **A** is that number of penalty units; and

**B** is the amount (in dollars) that is for the time being a penalty unit under section 4AA of the *Crimes Act 1914* of the Commonwealth.

(4) In this Part, a reference to a Commonwealth Act includes a reference to —

30                   (a) that Commonwealth Act, as amended and in force for the time being; and

- (b) an Act enacted in substitution for that Act and, if it is amended, as amended and in force for the time being.

**Division 2 — Performance of functions**

5       **53U. Functions not affected by State laws**

The NHMRC Licensing Committee or an officer of the Commonwealth is not precluded by any law of the State from performing a function conferred by this Part.

**53V. Extent to which functions are conferred**

- 10       (1) This Part does not purport to impose any duty on the NHMRC Licensing Committee or an officer of the Commonwealth to perform a function if the imposition of the duty would be beyond the legislative power of the Parliament of the State.
- 15       (2) This section does not limit the operation of section 7 of the *Interpretation Act 1984*.

**Division 3 — Offences**

**53W. Offence — use of excess ART embryo**

- 20       (1) A person commits a crime if the person uses an excess ART embryo, unless —
- (a) the use by the person is authorised by a licence; or
  - (b) the use by the person is an exempt use as defined in subsection (2).

25       Penalty: A fine of 300 penalty units or imprisonment for 5 years or both.

Summary conviction penalty: A fine of 60 penalty units or imprisonment for 12 months or both.

- 
- (2) A use of an excess ART embryo by a person is an “**exempt use**” for the purposes of subsection (1) if —
- (a) the use consists only of —
    - (i) storage of the excess ART embryo;
    - 5 (ii) removal of the excess ART embryo from storage; or
    - (iii) transport of the excess ART embryo;or
  - 10 (b) the use consists only of observation of the excess ART embryo;
  - (c) the use consists only of allowing the excess ART embryo to succumb;
  - (d) the use is carried out by a licensed ART centre, and —
    - 15 (i) the excess ART embryo is not suitable to be placed in the body of the woman for whom it was created where the suitability of the embryo is determined only on the basis of its biological fitness for implantation; and
    - 20 (ii) the use forms part of diagnostic investigations conducted in connection with the assisted reproductive technology treatment of the woman for whom the excess ART embryo was created;
  - 25 (e) the use is carried out by a licensed ART centre and is for the purposes of achieving pregnancy in a woman other than the woman for whom the excess ART embryo was created; or
  - 30 (f) the use is of a kind prescribed by the Commonwealth Human Embryo regulations for the purposes of section 10(2)(f) of the Commonwealth Human Embryo Act.
-

(3) A defendant does not bear an evidential burden in relation to any matter in subsection (1).

(4) In subsection (2) —

5                   “**diagnostic investigation**”, in relation to an excess  
ART embryo, means any procedure undertaken on  
embryos for the sole purpose of diagnostic  
investigations for the direct benefit of the woman  
for whom it was created;

10                   “**observation**”, in relation to an excess ART embryo,  
includes taking a photograph of the embryo, or  
taking a recording of the embryo from which a  
visual image can be produced.

**53X. Offence — breaching a licence condition**

15                   (1) A person commits a crime if the person engages in  
conduct that contravenes a condition of a licence that  
applies to the person.

Penalty: A fine of 300 penalty units or imprisonment  
for 5 years or both.

20                   Summary conviction penalty: A fine of 60 penalty  
units or imprisonment for 12 months or both.

(2) In this section —

“**engage in conduct**” means —

- (a) do an act; or
- (b) omit to perform an act.

---

**Division 4 — Embryo Research Licensing Committee of the NHMRC**

**53Y. Functions of Committee**

The functions of the NHMRC Licensing Committee are —

5

- (a) to perform functions in relation to licences under Division 5;
- (b) to perform functions in relation to databases under Division 6; and
- 10 (c) to perform such other functions as are conferred on it by this Part or any other law.

**53Z. Powers of Committee**

The NHMRC Licensing Committee has power to do all things necessary or convenient to be done for or in connection with the performance of its functions.

15

**Division 5 — Licensing system**

**53ZA. Person may apply for licence**

- 20 (1) A person may apply to the NHMRC Licensing Committee for a licence authorising use of excess ART embryos.
- (2) An application under subsection (1) —
  - (a) must be made in accordance with the requirements (if any) specified in writing by the NHMRC Licensing Committee; and
  - 25 (b) must be accompanied by a fee that is equal to the fee (if any) prescribed by the Commonwealth Human Embryo regulations for the purposes of section 20(2)(b) of the Commonwealth Human Embryo Act.

**53ZB. Determination of application by Committee**

- (1) This section applies if a person has made an application under section 53ZA for a licence.
- 5 (2) The NHMRC Licensing Committee must decide, in accordance with this section, whether or not to issue the licence.
- (3) The NHMRC Licensing Committee must not issue the licence unless it is satisfied of the following —
- 10 (a) that appropriate protocols are in place —
- (i) to enable proper consent to be obtained before an excess ART embryo is used under the licence (see section 53ZE(1)(a)); and
- 15 (ii) to enable compliance with any restrictions on such consent;
- (b) if the use of an excess ART embryo proposed in the application may damage or destroy the embryo — that appropriate protocols are in place to enable compliance with the condition that such use is authorised only in respect of an embryo created before 5 April 2002 (see section 53ZE(3));
- 20 (c) that the activity or project proposed in the application has been assessed and approved by a HREC that is constituted in accordance with, and acting in compliance with, the NHMRC *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Research Involving Humans* (1999), as in force from time to time.
- 25



- (4) In deciding whether to issue the licence, the NHMRC Licensing Committee must have regard to the following —
- (a) restricting the number of excess ART embryos to that likely to be necessary to achieve the goals of the activity or project proposed in the application;
  - (b) the likelihood of significant advance in knowledge or improvement in technologies for treatment as a result of the use of excess ART embryos proposed in the application, which could not reasonably be achieved by other means;
  - (c) any relevant guidelines, or relevant parts of guidelines, issued by the NHMRC under the *National Health and Medical Research Council Act 1992* of the Commonwealth and prescribed by the Commonwealth Human Embryo regulations for the purposes of section 21(4)(c) of the Commonwealth Human Embryo Act;
  - (d) the HREC assessment of the application mentioned in subsection (3)(c);
  - (e) such additional matters (if any) as are prescribed by the Commonwealth Human Embryo regulations for the purposes of section 21(4)(e) of the Commonwealth Human Embryo Act.

**53ZC. Notification of decision**

- (1) The NHMRC Licensing Committee must notify its decision on an application for a licence under section 53ZA to the following —
- (a) the applicant;
  - (b) the HREC that assessed and approved the activity or project proposed in the application as mentioned in section 53ZB(3)(c);

(c) the Commissioner as defined in section 3(1) of the *Health Act 1911*.

5 (2) If the NHMRC Licensing Committee decides to issue the licence, it must, in addition to issuing the licence to the applicant, give a copy of the licence to the bodies mentioned in subsection (1)(b) and (c).

**53ZD. Period of licence**

10 (1) A licence —  
(a) comes into force on the day specified in the licence, or if no day is specified, on the day on which it is issued; and  
(b) remains in force until the day specified in the licence, unless it is suspended, revoked or surrendered before that day.

15 (2) A licence is not in force throughout any period of suspension.

**53ZE. Licence is subject to conditions**

20 (1) A licence is subject to the condition that before an excess ART embryo is used as authorised by the licence —  
(a) each responsible person in relation to the excess ART embryo must have given proper consent to that use;  
25 (b) the licence holder must have reported in writing to the NHMRC Licensing Committee that such consent has been obtained, and any restrictions to which the consent is subject; and  
30 (c) if the licence authorises use of an excess ART embryo that may damage or destroy the embryo — the licence holder must have reported in writing to the NHMRC Licensing

Committee that the embryo was created before  
5 April 2002.

- 5
- (2) A licence is subject to the condition that the use of an excess ART embryo must be in accordance with any restrictions to which the proper consent under subsection (1) is subject.
- 10
- (3) If a licence authorises the use of an excess ART embryo that may damage or destroy the embryo, the licence is subject to the condition that such use is authorised only in respect of an embryo created before 5 April 2002.
- (4) A licence is subject to such other conditions as are specified in the licence.
- 15
- (5) The conditions specified in the licence may include, but are not limited to, conditions relating to the following —
- 20
- (a) the persons authorised by the licence to use excess ART embryos;
  - (b) the number of excess ART embryos in respect of which use is authorised by the licence;
  - (c) reporting;
  - (d) monitoring;
  - (e) information to be given by the licence holder to persons authorised by the licence to use excess ART embryos.
- 25
- (6) The licence conditions set out in subsections (1), (2) and (3) apply to all persons who are authorised by the licence to use excess ART embryos.
- 30
- (7) Licence conditions specified in the licence apply to —
- (a) the licence holder; and

- (b) such other persons authorised by the licence to use excess ART embryos as are specified in the licence.

**53ZF. Variation of licence**

- 5 (1) The NHMRC Licensing Committee may, by notice in writing given to the licence holder, vary a licence if the Committee believes on reasonable grounds that it is necessary or desirable to do so.
- 10 (2) The NHMRC Licensing Committee may vary a licence under subsection (1) on its own initiative or on application by the licence holder.
- 15 (3) Without limiting subsection (1), the NHMRC Licensing Committee may vary the licence by specifying additional conditions or varying existing conditions.
- 20 (4) The NHMRC Licensing Committee must not vary a licence in such a way that, had a person applied under section 53ZA for the licence as varied, the Committee would not have been permitted by this Part to issue the licence.

**53ZG. Suspension or revocation of licence**

- 25 (1) The NHMRC Licensing Committee may, by notice in writing given to the licence holder, suspend or revoke a licence if the Committee believes on reasonable grounds that a condition of the licence has been breached.
- 30 (2) If a licence holder is convicted of an offence under this Division, a corresponding law or the *Prohibition of Human Cloning Act 2002* of the Commonwealth, the NHMRC Licensing Committee must, by notice in writing given to the licence holder, revoke each licence held by the licence holder.

**53ZH. Surrender of licence**

A licence holder may surrender a licence by written notice given to the NHMRC Licensing Committee.

**53ZI. Notification of variation, suspension, revocation or surrender of licence**

If the NHMRC Licensing Committee varies, suspends or revokes a licence, or a licence is surrendered, the Committee must notify —

- (a) the licence holder;
- (b) the HREC to which the NHMRC Licensing Committee notified its decision on the application for the licence under section 53ZC; and
- (c) the Commissioner as defined in section 3(1) of the *Health Act 1911*.

**Division 6 — Reporting and confidentiality**

**53ZJ. NHMRC Licensing Committee to make certain information publicly available**

- (1) The NHMRC Licensing Committee must maintain a database containing the following information in relation to each licence (including a licence as varied) —
  - (a) the name of the person to whom the licence was issued;
  - (b) a short statement about the nature of the uses of excess ART embryos that are authorised by the licence;
  - (c) any conditions to which the licence is subject;
  - (d) the number of excess ART embryos in respect of which use is authorised by the licence;
  - (e) the date on which the licence was issued;

- (f) the period throughout which the licence is to remain in force.
- (2) The database is to be made publicly available.
- (3) The database may be kept and made publicly available in electronic form.
- (4) Information mentioned in subsection (1) must not be such as to disclose confidential commercial information.

**53ZK. Confidential commercial information may only be disclosed in certain circumstances**

- (1) A person commits an offence if —
  - (a) the person discloses confidential commercial information that the person has only because of performing duties or functions under this Part or under a corresponding law;
  - (b) the person knows that the information is confidential commercial information; and
  - (c) the disclosure is not —
    - (i) to the Commonwealth, a Commonwealth authority or a State agency in the course of carrying out duties or functions under this Part or under a corresponding law;
    - (ii) by order of a court; or
    - (iii) with the consent of each person to whom the information has a commercial or other value.

Penalty: A fine of 120 penalty units or imprisonment for 2 years or both.

- (2) A person commits an offence if —
  - (a) the person discloses confidential commercial information that the person has only because of

a disclosure permitted under subsection (1) or this subsection;

(b) the person knows that the information is confidential commercial information; and

5

(c) the disclosure is not —

(i) to the Commonwealth, a Commonwealth authority or a State agency in the course of carrying out duties or functions under this Part or under a corresponding law;

10

(ii) by order of a court; or

(iii) with the consent of each person to whom the information has a commercial or other value.

15

Penalty: A fine of 120 penalty units or imprisonment for 2 years or both.

(3) In this section —

**“Commonwealth authority”** means —

20

(a) a body corporate established for a public purpose by or under an Act of the Commonwealth; or

(b) a company in which a controlling interest is held by any one of the following persons, or by 2 or more of the following persons together —

25

(i) the Commonwealth;

(ii) a body covered by paragraph (a);

(iii) a body covered by subparagraph (i) or (ii).

30

**“court”** includes a tribunal, authority or person having power to require the production of documents or the answering of questions;

**“State agency”** means —

- (a) the Crown in right of a State;
- (b) a Minister of a State;
- (c) a department of the Government of a State;
- 5 (d) an instrumentality of a State, including a body corporate established for a public purpose by or under a law of a State; or
- 10 (e) a company in which a controlling interest is held by any one of the following persons, or by 2 or more of the following persons together —
  - (i) the Crown in right of a State;
  - (ii) a person or body covered by paragraph (b) or (d);
  - 15 (iii) a person or body covered by subparagraph (i) or (ii).

**53ZKA. Annual Reports**

- 20 (1) The NHMRC Licensing Committee must furnish to the Minister a copy of any report prepared under section 19(3) of the *Research Involving Human Embryos Act 2002* of the Commonwealth (insofar as the report is relevant to the operation of this Act).
- 25 (2) The Minister must, within 12 sitting days after receipt of a report under subsection (1), cause copies of the report to be laid before each House of Parliament.

**Division 7 — Review provisions**

**53ZL. Meaning of terms**

In this Division —



“**decision**” has the same meaning as in the  
*Administrative Appeals Tribunal Act 1975* of the  
Commonwealth;

5 “**eligible person**”, in relation to a decision of the  
NHMRC Licensing Committee, means —

- 10 (a) in relation to a decision under section 53ZB  
not to issue a licence — the applicant for the  
licence;
- (b) in relation to a decision in respect of the  
period throughout which the licence is to be  
in force under section 53ZD — the licence  
holder;
- 15 (c) in relation to a decision to specify a licence  
condition under section 53ZE(4) — the  
licence holder;
- (d) in relation to a decision to vary or refuse to  
vary a licence under section 53ZF — the  
licence holder; or
- 20 (e) in relation to a decision to suspend or revoke  
a licence under section 53ZG — the person  
who was the licence holder immediately  
before the suspension or revocation.

**53ZM. Review of decisions**

- 25 (1) An eligible person may apply to the Administrative  
Appeals Tribunal for review of the following decisions  
of the NHMRC Licensing Committee —
  - 30 (a) a decision under section 53ZB not to issue a  
licence;
  - (b) a decision in respect of the period throughout  
which the licence is to be in force under  
section 53ZD;
  - (c) a decision to specify a licence condition under  
section 53ZE(4);

- (d) a decision to vary or refuse to vary a licence under section 53ZF;
- (e) a decision to suspend or revoke a licence under section 53ZG.

- 5           (2) This section has effect subject to the *Administrative Appeals Tribunal Act 1975* of the Commonwealth and section 43 of the Commonwealth Human Embryo Act.

### **Division 8 — Monitoring powers**

#### **53ZN. Appointment of inspectors**

- 10           (1) The Chairperson of the NHMRC Licensing Committee may, by instrument in writing, appoint any of the following persons as inspectors —
- (a) an officer of the Commonwealth;
  - (b) a person who is appointed or employed by the State.
- 15
- (2) In exercising powers or performing functions as an inspector, an inspector must comply with any directions of the Chairperson of the NHMRC Licensing Committee.
- 20           (3) The Chairperson of the NHMRC Licensing Committee must not appoint a person as an inspector under subsection (1) unless he or she is satisfied that the person has appropriate skills and experience.

#### **53ZO. Identity card**

- 25           (1) The Chairperson of the NHMRC Licensing Committee must issue an identity card to an inspector.
- (2) The identity card —
- (a) must be in the form prescribed by the Commonwealth Human Embryo regulations for

the purposes of section 34(2)(a) of the  
Commonwealth Human Embryo Act; and

(b) must contain a recent photograph of the  
inspector.

5 (3) If a person to whom an identity card has been issued  
ceases to be an inspector, the person must return the  
identity card to the Chairperson of the NHMRC  
Licensing Committee as soon as practicable.

Penalty: One penalty unit.

10 (4) An inspector must carry his or her identity card at all  
times when exercising powers or performing functions  
as an inspector.

**53ZP. Powers available to inspectors for monitoring  
compliance**

15 (1) For the purpose of finding out whether this Part has  
been complied with, an inspector may —

(a) enter any premises; and

(b) exercise the monitoring powers set out in  
section 53ZQ.

20 (2) An inspector is not authorised to enter premises under  
subsection (1) unless —

(a) the occupier of the premises has consented to  
the entry; or

25 (b) the premises are premises at which the occupier  
of the premises is carrying out activities  
authorised by a licence issued under  
section 53ZB, and the entry is at a reasonable  
time.

**53ZQ. Monitoring powers**

- (1) The monitoring powers that an inspector may exercise under section 53ZP(1)(b) are as follows —
- 5 (a) to search the premises and any thing on the premises;
  - (b) to inspect, examine, take measurements of, conduct tests on, or take samples of, any human embryo or thing on the premises that relates to this Part;
  - 10 (c) to take photographs, make video or audio recordings or make sketches of the premises or any thing on the premises;
  - (d) to inspect any book, record or document on the premises;
  - 15 (e) to take extracts from or make copies of any such book, record or document;
  - (f) to take onto the premises such equipment and materials as the inspector requires for the purpose of exercising powers in relation to the premises.
  - 20
- (2) For the purposes of this Division, monitoring powers include the power to operate equipment at premises to see whether —
- 25 (a) the equipment; or
  - (b) a disk, tape or other storage device that —
    - (i) is at the premises; and
    - (ii) can be used with the equipment or is associated with it,
- contains information that is relevant to determining whether there has been compliance with this Part.
- 30
- (3) If the inspector, after operating equipment at the premises, finds that the equipment, or that a tape, disk

or other storage device at the premises, contains information mentioned in subsection (2), the inspector may —

- 5 (a) operate equipment or facilities at the premises to put the information in documentary form and copy the document so produced; or
- (b) if the information can be transferred to a tape, disk or other storage device that —
- 10 (i) is brought to the premises; or
- (ii) is at the premises and the use of which has been agreed to in writing by the occupier of the premises,
- operate the equipment or other facilities to copy the information to the storage device, and
- 15 remove the storage device from the premises.
- (4) In addition, the Commissioner of Health may confer on an inspector the powers set out in section 54.

**53ZR. Power to secure**

20 If an inspector, during a search of premises, believes on reasonable grounds that there is at the premises a human embryo or a thing that may afford evidence of the commission of an offence against this Part, the monitoring powers include securing the embryo or

25 thing pending the obtaining of a warrant (whether by the inspector or by another person) to seize it.

**53ZS. Inspector must produce identity card on request**

An inspector is not entitled to exercise any powers under this Division in relation to premises if —

30 (a) the occupier of the premises has required the inspector to produce his or her identity card for inspection by the occupier; and

- (b) the inspector fails to comply with the requirement.

**53ZT. Consent**

- 5 (1) Before obtaining the consent of a person for the purposes of section 53ZP(2)(a), the inspector must inform the person that he or she may refuse consent.
- (2) An entry of an inspector by virtue of the consent of a person is not lawful unless the person voluntarily consented to the entry.

10 **53ZU. Compensation for damage**

- (1) The owner of equipment or other facilities is entitled to compensation for damage to the equipment or other facilities if —
  - 15 (a) the damage was caused to the equipment or other facilities as a result of it being operated by an inspector as mentioned in this Division; and
  - (b) the damage was caused as a result of insufficient care being exercised by the inspector operating the equipment or other facilities.
- 20 (2) An application for compensation is to be made to the NHMRC Licensing Committee.
- 25 (3) In determining the amount of compensation payable, regard is to be had to whether the occupier of the premises and his or her employees and agents, if they were available at the time, had provided any warning or guidance as to the operation of the equipment or other facilities that was appropriate in the  
30 circumstances.

**Division 9 — Expiry**

**53ZV. Expiry of certain provisions**

- (1) Sections 53ZB(3)(b) and 53ZE(1)(c) and (3) expire on 5 April 2005.
- 5 (2) Subsection (1) may be repealed by resolution passed by both Houses of Parliament.

**Division 10 — Conscientious objection to use of excess ART embryos**

**53ZVA. Conscientious objection to use of excess ART embryos**

10

Despite any requirement under a contract or a written law, a person is not required to use, or assist another person in using, an excess ART embryo under this Part if the person has a conscientious objection to doing so.

15

**Division 11 — Review of Part**

**53ZW. Review of Part**

- (1) The Minister must cause a review of the operation of this Part to be undertaken as soon as possible after 19 December 2004.
- 20 (2) The review must take into account —
- (a) developments in technology in relation to assisted reproductive technology;
- (b) developments in medical research and scientific research and the potential therapeutic applications of such research;
- 25 (c) community standards; and
- (d) the applicability of establishing a National Stem Cell Bank.

**s. 37**

---

- (3) The review of this Part may be undertaken as part of the review of the Commonwealth Human Embryo Act mentioned in section 47 of that Act.
- 5 (4) The Minister is to prepare a report based on the review made under subsection (1) and cause the report to be laid before each House of Parliament not later than 12 months from the date on which the review is first commenced.
- 10 (5) The Minister must cause a copy of the report based on the review conducted under section 47 of the Commonwealth Human Embryo Act to be laid before each House of Parliament not later than six sitting days from the date of receipt of the report.

”.

15 **37. Section 54 amended**

Section 54(1) is amended as follows:

- (a) in paragraph (a)(i) by deleting “egg in the process of fertilisation or any embryo” and inserting instead —
- 20 “ human egg undergoing fertilisation or human embryo ”;
- (b) in paragraph (a)(ii) by deleting “gametes” and inserting instead —
- 25 “ human gametes ”;
- (c) in paragraph (a)(iv) by deleting “gametes or participants or any egg in the process of fertilisation or embryo;” and inserting instead —
- 30 “ human gametes or participants or any human egg undergoing fertilisation or human embryo; ”;



- (d) in paragraph (a) by deleting “gametes, egg in the process of fertilisation or embryo,” and inserting instead —

“

5

human gametes, human egg undergoing fertilisation or human embryo,

”;

- (e) in paragraph (c) by deleting “gametes, an egg in the process of fertilisation or an embryo,” and inserting instead —

10

“

human gametes, a human egg undergoing fertilisation or a human embryo,

”.

**38. Section 56 amended**

15

Section 56(1) is amended by deleting “an offence” and inserting instead —

“ a simple offence ”.

**39. Section 57 amended**

Section 57(1) is amended as follows:

20

- (a) in paragraph (a) by deleting “gametes, an egg in the process of fertilisation or an embryo” and inserting instead —

“

25

human gametes, a human egg undergoing fertilisation or a human embryo

”;

- (b) in paragraph (b)(iii) by deleting “person responsible” and inserting instead —

“ licence supervisor ”.

**s. 40**

---

**40. Section 59 amended**

Section 59(2) is amended as follows:

- (a) after paragraph (b) by deleting “or”;
- (b) at the end of paragraph (c) by deleting the comma and inserting instead —

5

“

; or

- (d) a person on whom a power is conferred under section 53ZQ(4),

10

”.

=====