

**National Security (Legislative Provisions) Bill:
Amendments to official secrets legislation in other jurisdictions**

The Administration was asked to provide information on whether there are any amendments to the UK Official Secrets Act 1989 and legislation on official secrets in Australia, Canada and Singapore.

UK

2. Some minor amendments have been made to sections 4, 9, 11, 12 and Schedule 1 of the UK Official Secrets Act since its enactment in 1989.

Australia

3. Australia has recently reviewed its legislation on espionage. By virtue of the Criminal Code Amendment (Espionage and Related Matters) Act 2002 which received the Royal Assent on 31 October 2002, a new Part 5.2 was added into the Criminal Code Act 1995 to provide for offences relating to espionage and similar activities.

Canada

4. In 2001, Canada amended the Official Secrets Act 1939 and renamed it as the Security of Information Act.

Singapore

5. The Official Secrets Act of Singapore was amended in 2001.

Department of Justice
June 2003