

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

**Crimes Amendment (Abolition of Blasphemy)
Bill 2019**

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PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

Introduced in the Council by Fiona Patten

Crimes Amendment (Abolition of Blasphemy) Bill 2019

A Bill for an Act to abolish the common law offences of blasphemy
and blasphemous libel.

The Parliament of Victoria enacts:

Part 1—Preliminary

1 Purpose

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The purpose of this Act is to abolish the common law offences of blasphemy and blasphemous libel to the extent that they form part of the common law of Victoria.

2 Commencement

This Act comes into operation on the day after the day on which it receives the Royal Assent.

Part 2—Amendment of Crimes Act 1958

3 New section 322AB inserted

After section 322A of the **Crimes Act 1958**,
insert—

5 **"322AB Offences of blasphemy and blasphemous
libel abolished**

Any distinct offences under the common law
of blasphemy and blasphemous libel are
abolished."

Part 3—Repeal of this Act

4 Repeal of this Act

This Act is **repealed** on the first anniversary of its commencement.

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Note

The repeal of this Act does not affect the continuing operation of the amendments made by it (see section 15(1) of the **Interpretation of Legislation Act 1984**).

Endnotes

1 General information

See www.legislation.vic.gov.au for Victorian Bills, Acts and current authorised versions of legislation and up-to-date legislative information.