



ACT
Government

Senior Practitioner Act Review

Plain English Discussion Paper

Summary

What this paper is about

The ACT Government wants to hear what you think about **legislation** that makes rules for using **restrictive practices**.

Legislation tells us how people should act, and things that people shouldn't do. This paper talks about legislation called the *Senior Practitioner Act 2018*. We will call it the SP Act.

Restrictive practices are actions that stop a person from doing what they want to do. Here are some examples of a restrictive practice:

- holding a person's body to stop them from moving or doing what they want
- making a person be alone in a room or space
- making a person take medicine so they are easier to control.

The SP Act has rules to guide people who work in **services** that help people.

Services support people who need help with living or learning. For example, a service could help a person with disability to get dressed each day. Services can also help children to learn or to keep them safe.

The rules in the SP Act are for services that help the people in this list:

- people with disability
- children and teenagers at school or other places for learning
- children and teenagers who can't live with their family because it isn't safe.

Why this is important

It is 5 years since the SP Act started. The ACT Government needs to look at how the SP Act is working. This will help us to know if the SP Act is helping to protect people who use services.

Sometimes, restrictive practices can hurt people with disability or children and teenagers. Restrictive practices can also make people feel unsafe or scared.

How you can help

You can help us to know how the SP Act is working. You can do this by telling us what you think about restrictive practices, or how they make you feel.

Here are some ways to tell us what you think:

- email seniorpractitioneractconsultation@act.gov.au
- email this address to ask for someone to speak on the phone or meet with you
- ask for help to write down your ideas, and give it to us on the [YourSay website](#).

When we hear from lots of people, we will put all the ideas in a report. The ACT Government will give the report to the Legislative Assembly. This will help everyone to decide if the SP Act is working well, and if it needs any changes.