



Plain Language Summary for Bill 18: An Act to Amend the Partnership and Business Names Act

The *Partnership and Business Names Act* (the Act) creates registration requirements for business names used in the NWT. If a person is affected by a decision of the Registrar regarding registration of a business name, they may request a review of that decision before the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories.

Recently it has come to the attention of the Department of Justice that the Act requires a suspension (or in legal terms, a 'stay') of registrations while under review. This is a result of amendments that were made to the Act in 2015. Instead of saying a decision is "stayed" the legislation should say a decision is "not stayed".

This Bill seeks to amend the Act so that a name registration which is under judicial review is not stayed during the review period to avoid unreasonable and unpredictable delays in registering business names.

In addition, the amendments seek to make the language more gender-inclusive.

For additional information or questions, contact:

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