

Native Welfare Act 1954, Western Australia

1955 – 1964

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Details

The Native Welfare Act 1954 (Act no. 1954/064 (3 Eliz. II No.64) was passed on 30 December 1954 and commenced on 20 May 1955. It was 'An Act to amend the Native Administration Act, 1905-1947.' The Act changed the titles of the Commissioner and Department of Native Affairs to Commissioner and Department of Native Welfare. Under the Act, the Commissioner remained the legal guardian of 'native' children except where the child had been already made a ward under the Child Welfare Act 1947. The Native Welfare Act 1954 was replaced by the Native Welfare Act 1963 when it commenced on 1 July 1964.

Under the Native Welfare Act 1954, The Commissioner could 'from time to time direct what person is to have the custody of a native child of whom he is the legal guardian, and his direction shall have effect according to its tenor'.

More info

Related Entries

Related Organisations

- [Department of Native Welfare, State of Western Australia \(1955 - 1972\)](#)
The Department of Native Welfare administered the *Native Welfare Act 1954*.
Date: 1954 - 1963

Amends

- [Aborigines Act 1905, Western Australia \(1906 - 1964\)](#)

Related Legislation

- [Child Welfare Act 1947, Western Australia \(1948 - 2006\)](#)
The *Native Welfare Act 1954* made the Commissioner of Native Welfare the guardian of all Aboriginal children except those who had been made wards under the *Child Welfare Act 1947*.

Is amended by

- [Native Welfare Act Amendment Act 1960, Western Australia \(1960 - 1963\)](#)

Related Concepts

- [Aboriginal Protection in Western Australia \(c. 1832 - c. 1972\)](#)
- [Assimilation Policy \(1950s - 1960s\)](#)

- [Commissioner of Native Welfare \(1954 - 1972\)](#)

The *Native Welfare Act 1954* changed the title of the role of Commissioner of Native Affairs to that of Commissioner of Native Welfare.

Resources

- Foster, Darren J, [Submission No 347 to the Senate Inquiry into Children in Institutional Care](#), 3 April 2004

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