ATTORNEY-GENERAL  
MINISTER FOR JUSTICE

PROTECTING TERRITORIANS FROM SERIOUS SEX OFFENDERS  
March 26th, 2013

The Northern Territory’s worst sex offenders could be locked up, or monitored, indefinitely after the Serious Sex Offenders Act 2013 was passed in Parliament today.

Attorney-General and Minister for Justice John Elferink said this is about making the Territory a safer place.

“The Country Liberals Government is committed to protecting the most vulnerable in our society, particularly children and victims of crime.

“Under this Act, the Supreme Court will to be able to detain serious sex offenders after their sentence has finished.

“The people this will apply to have been convicted of horrendous sexual crimes and pose an unacceptable risk of committing another serious sexual offence if they are not kept in gaol or monitored.

“The community is deeply concerned about the danger posed by serious sex offenders once they finish their sentences and are released. This Act may prevent many serious sex crimes from occurring.

“The Act includes a range of safeguards to make sure this power is used responsibility including the need for two independent medical assessments, a comprehensive review process and an extremely high burden of proof on the applicant,” Mr Elferink said.

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