



# MEDIA RELEASE

Hon. John Hatzistergos MLC  
Attorney General  
Minister for Industrial Relations

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## SECOND ROUND OF BIKIE LAWS PASS PARLIAMENT

The NSW Parliament has tonight passed the latest round of legislation to combat criminal organisations.

Attorney General John Hatzistergos said the laws create a new offence of recruiting a person to be a member of a declared organisation, carrying a maximum penalty of five years imprisonment.

“Criminal organisations use ‘feeder groups,’ which are usually made up of younger members, to replenish and renew their ranks,” Mr Hatzistergos said.

“This new offence will make it more difficult for declared criminal organisations to recruit new members.”

Mr Hatzistergos said the new legislation will also include a “substituted service” scheme to allow police to use alternative means of notice when applying a control order on an individual, after other means of serving the order have been unsuccessful.

The scheme would extend the 28-service period and is aimed at preventing criminals from going underground to avoid being served.

The second round of legislation also includes:

- Giving power to the police to share confidential criminal intelligence concerning associates of declared criminal organisation members with high risk industry regulators. Industry licences to associates, who act as “front people,” will be refused or cancelled if the regulator believes improper conduct to further criminal activity is likely to occur.
- An amendment to the Surveillance Devices Act 2007 to authorise the use of intelligence obtained through a surveillance warrant to be used in proceedings to declare a gang or place a control order on a gang member.

Mr Hatzistergos said the new laws amended the Criminal Organisations Legislation Amendment Bill 2009 and other laws to give police the additional tools they need to combat criminal gangs.

“These new laws build on the legislation we have already passed and go further toward our aim of dismantling bkie gangs,” Mr Hatzistergos said.

The NSW Government recently passed laws to enable the declaration of criminal organisations and make it an offence for persons who are subject to a control order to associate.

Under the legislation, declared gang members who continue to associate can be imprisoned for two years for the first offence and five years for secondary offences.