



Australian Government
Attorney-General's Department

Family Law Amendment Act 2024

Family Law Pathways Network Webinar Series

Webinar two: focus on dispute resolution



Panellists

- **The Hon John Faulks** Former Deputy Chief Justice of the Family Court of Australia
- **Anne-Marie Rice** Senior Judicial Registrar, Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia
- **Clare Moran** Senior Advisor Family Law, Relationships Australia Victoria



Property framework amendments

Codify

decision-making steps

(ss79(2), 79(3))

Simplify

Parts VIII and VIIIAB of
the Family Law Act

New and amended factors

Wastage (s79(5)(d))

Liabilities (s79(5)(e))

Housing needs of children
(s79(5)(f))

Account for economic
consequences of
family violence

Contributions (s79(4)(ca))

Current and future circumstances
(s79(5)(a))

**Expressly recognise
economic or financial
abuse as family
violence**

(s4AB(2) –(2A))

**Ownership of
companion animals**

Definition (s4(1))

Types of orders (s79(6))

List of factors (s79(7))



Duty of financial disclosure

- Elevated into Family Law Act: (s71B)
- New obligation on legal practitioners and family dispute resolution practitioners who engage with a separated party to:
 - **provide information** about:
 - **the duty of disclosure** and the circumstances in which the duty applies
 - the **potential consequences of not complying** with the duty
 - **encourage the party** to take all necessary steps to comply with the duty



Companion animals

companion animal means an animal kept by the parties to a marriage or either of them, or the parties to a de facto relationship or either of them, primarily for the purpose of companionship, but does not include:

- a) an assistance animal within the meaning of the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*; or
- b) an animal kept as part of a business; or
- c) an animal kept for agricultural purposes; or
- d) an animal kept for use in laboratory tests or experiments.



More information

Overview webinar

[National FLPN Webinar 1 of 3: 'Overview of changes to the Family Law Act: from June 2025'](#)

Overview factsheet

www.ag.gov.au/families-and-marriage/publications/family-law-changes-june-2025-information-family-law-professionals