

IN BRIEF

By The Canberra Times

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Business coy on rights ACT human rights commissioner Helen Watchirs is confident Canberra businesses will choose to comply with the Human Rights Act, even though none have opted to since the provision was created two weeks ago. The Assembly amended the Act to allow businesses to choose to be bound by the law, as government agencies are. The change took effect on January 1, but no businesses have adopted it, saying it will create extra paperwork and expose them to litigation. Dr Watchirs said it was too early to judge businesses' interest, but conceded it was unlikely small and medium companies would opt in.