

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA



REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2021

NO. OF 2021

*Representation of the People
(Amendment) Bill, 2021*

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ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

Clauses

1. Short title
2. Interpretation
3. Amendment of section 9 - Powers and duties of the Supervisor of Elections
4. Amendment of the Second Schedule - Registration Regulations

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REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL 2021
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AN ACT to amend the Representation of the People Act, Cap. 379.

ENACTED by the Parliament of Antigua and Barbuda as follows:

1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the Representation of the People (Amendment) Act, 2021.

2. Interpretation

In this Act—

“Principal Act” means the Representation of the People Act, Cap. 379.

3. Amendment of section 9 - Powers and duties of the Supervisor of Elections

The principal Act is amended in section 9 by repealing subsection (1C) and replacing it with the following new subsection—

“(1C) Notwithstanding subsections (1A) and (1B) the age at which the Supervisor of Elections shall vacate his office under section 67 of the Constitution is seventy five years”.

4. Amendment of the Second Schedule – Registration Regulations

The principal Act is amended in the Second Schedule by—

(a) repealing regulation 17(2) and replacing it as follows:

“(2) An objection shall be in the prescribed form and may be made by any registered elector for that constituency”;

- (b) deleting the phrase “polling division” in regulation 23 and replacing it with the phrase “polling district”; and
- (b) deleting the phrase “polling division” wherever it occurs in FORM I - Certificate of Registration and replacing it with the phrase “polling district”.

Passed the House of Representatives
this the day of 2021.

Passed the Senate
this day of 2021

Speaker

President

Clerk to the House of Representatives

Clerk to the Senate

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The proposed amendments to the Representation of the People Act aims to do the following:

- **Clause 3** proposes to amend **section 9** of the principal Act to increase the age at which the Supervisor of Elections vacates the office from **65 years to 75 years**. This brings it in uniformity with the age at which members of the Electoral Commission vacate office.
- Under **Clause 4**, the **Registration Regulations** contained in the Second Schedule is amended in **regulation 17(2)** of the Registration Regulations to allow for a **registered elector to make an objection** in the prescribed form as opposed to an objection being made by **any person who is eligible to apply to be registered for that constituency**.
- Clause 4 also amends the Second Schedule to correct a slight anomaly. The phrase “**polling division**” was inadvertently used to mean “**polling district**”. The amendment therefore aims to delete “polling division” and replace it with the phrase “polling district”.

Hon. Gaston Browne

*Prime Minister and Minister of
Finance and Corporate Governance*

HOR Sitting: S4:S6