

**ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA**



**No. of 2020**

**THE POLICE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2020**



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**ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS**

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**THE POLICE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2020**  
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**AN ACT** to amend the Police Act, Cap. 330 to address the pensionable age for members of the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda.

**ENACTED** by the Parliament of Antigua and Barbuda as follows:

**1. Short title and commencement**

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Police (Amendment) Act, 2020.
- (2) This Act shall come into effect on a day to be appointed by the Minister by Notice published in the official Gazette.

**2. Interpretation**

In this Act –

“principal Act” means the Police Act, Cap. 330

**3. Amendment to section 61**

The principal Act is amended in section 61 by repealing section 61 and replacing it with the following new section 61 –

**“61. Pensions to be granted to Gazetted Police Officers**

The pensions, gratuities and other allowances to be granted in respect of the service of Gazetted Police Officers shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of the Police Act and the Regulations made thereunder.”

**4. Amendment to section 68**

The principal Act is amended in section 68 by repealing section 68 and replacing it with the following new section 68 -



**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

This primary objective of this Bill is to address the issue of the pensionable age of police officers. Given the nature of work, the physical aspects the job entails and the demanding extended shift work hours required of police offices, it is imperative they are given the opportunity to retire at the age of sixty.

The Police Act in its current state separates Gazetted police officers from the other police officers in the Force. Clause 3 amends the principal Act by repealing section 61 which made provisions for the pensions of Gazetted Officers to be determined in accordance with the Pension Act and replacing it with a new section 61. The amendment will allow for pensions, gratuities and other allowances of Gazetted Police Officers to be determined by Police Act and Regulations made thereunder.

With the separation created in section 61 of the principal Act the retirement age of Gazetted Police Officers would have changed to sixty-five (65) as of 1<sup>st</sup> May 2020. Clause 4 amends the principal Act by repealing section 68 and replacing it with a new section 68. The amendment removes the distinction for the age of retirement and thereby brings the age of retirement for Gazetted Police Officers back to sixty (60).

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**Honourable Steadroy Benjamin  
Minister of Justice, Legal Affairs, National Security and  
Labour**