

## OBJECTS AND REASONS

This Bill would amend the *Supreme Court of Judicature Act, Cap. 117A*.

### *Arrangement of Sections*

#### Section

1. Short title
2. Amendment of section 7 of Cap.117A.

BARBADOS

A Bill entitled

An Act to amend the *Supreme Court of Judicature Act*

ENACTED by the Parliament of Barbados as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as the *Supreme Court of Judicature (Amendment) Act, 2011*. Short title.

Insertion of  
new section  
7 in  
Cap. 117A.

2. Section 7 of the *Supreme Court of Judicature Act* is deleted and the following is substituted:

"Qualifica-  
tions of  
judges of  
High Court  
and Court of  
Appeal.

7. (1) A person is qualified for appointment as judge of the High Court who

- (a) is qualified to practise as an attorney-at-law in Barbados, and has practised as such in Barbados, in some part of the Commonwealth or in a common law jurisdiction for a period of, or periods amounting in the aggregate to not less than, 10 years;
- (b) is or has been a judge of a court having unlimited jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters in some part of the Commonwealth or of a court having jurisdiction in appeals from such a court; or
- (c) is or has been a judge of a court having unlimited jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters in a common law jurisdiction or of a court having jurisdiction in appeals from such a court.

(2) A person is qualified for appointment as Chief Justice or as judge of the Court of Appeal who

- (a) is a judge of the High Court; or
- (b) is or has been a judge of a court having unlimited jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters in some part of the Commonwealth or of a court having jurisdiction in appeals from such a court;
- (c) is or has been a judge of a court having unlimited jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters in a common law jurisdiction or of a court having jurisdiction in appeals from such a court; or

(d) is qualified to practise as an attorney-at-law in Barbados and has practised as such in Barbados, in some part of the Commonwealth or in a common law jurisdiction for a period of, or periods amounting in the aggregate to not less than, 15 years.

(3) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), a person is qualified for appointment under those subsections if that person

(a) has been qualified to practise as an attorney-at-law in Barbados for the periods specified in those subsections; and

(b) is a professor or teacher of law at the University of the West Indies or at a School for Legal Education approved by the Judicial and Legal Service Commission.

(4) For the purposes of this section, "practise as an attorney-at-law" in Barbados for the period or periods mentioned in this section shall be construed as including any period in which the attorney-at-law served as a Magistrate in Barbados.

(5) For the purposes of this section, "attorney-at-law" in relation to the Commonwealth or a common law jurisdiction, includes an advocate or a barrister at law."