

OBJECTS AND REASONS

This Bill would amend the *Coroners Act*, Cap. 113 to make provision for the assignment of one magistrate to perform the duties of Coroner for the Island of Barbados.

Arrangement of Sections

Section

1. Short title.
2. Amendment of section 2 of Cap. 113.
3. Insertion of section 2A into Cap. 113.
4. Transitional provisions.

BARBADOS

A Bill entitled

An Act to amend the *Coroners Act*.

ENACTED by the Parliament of Barbados as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as the *Coroners (Amendment) Act, Short title. 2005*.

Amendment
of section 2
of Cap. 113.

2. Section 2 of the *Coroners Act*, in this Act referred to as the principal Act is amended by deleting the definition of "coroner" and substituting the following:

" "coroner" means a magistrate to whom section 2A applies;"

Insertion of
section 2A
into Cap.
113.

3. The principal Act is amended by inserting the following new sections immediately after section 2:

"Coroner for
Barbados.

2A. The Chief Justice shall assign a magistrate to be the coroner for Barbados and that coroner shall have jurisdiction in all magisterial districts to

(a) cause an investigation to be conducted into the cause of an unnatural death; and

(b) hold, where necessary, an inquest into an unnatural death.

Transitional
provisions.

2B. Notwithstanding section 2A, where an investigation or inquest into an unnatural death commenced prior to the coming into operation of the *Coroners (Amendment) Act, 2005* it shall be concluded by that magistrate."