

2018-06-04

OBJECTS AND REASONS

This Bill would amend the *Constitution*, Cap. 1966/1455 of Barbados to revise

- (a) the qualifications for membership of the Senate;
- (b) the provisions relating to disqualification for membership of the Senate and the Assembly; and
- (c) the provision relating to vacancies in the office of the Leader of the Opposition.

Arrangement of Sections

1. Short title
2. Amendment of section 37 of the *Constitution*
3. Amendment of section 38 of the *Constitution*
4. Amendment of section 44 of the *Constitution*
5. Amendment of section 75 of the *Constitution*

BARBADOS

A Bill entitled

An Act to amend the *Constitution*, Cap. 1966/1455 of Barbados to revise

- (a) the qualifications for membership of the Senate;
- (b) the provisions relating to disqualification for membership of the Senate and the Assembly; and
- (c) the provision relating to vacancies in the office of the Leader of the Opposition.

ENACTED by the Parliament of Barbados in accordance with the provisions of section 49 of the *Constitution* as follows:

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the *Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2018*.

Amendment of section 37 of the *Constitution*

2. *The Constitution, in this Act referred to as the principal Act, is amended by deleting section 37 and substituting the following:*

“Qualification for membership of Senate

37. Subject to the provisions of section 38, any person who at the date of his appointment is a citizen of Barbados of the age of twenty-one years or upwards shall be qualified to be appointed as a Senator.”.

Amendment of section 38 of the *Constitution*

3. *Section 38 of the principal Act is amended in subsection (1) by deleting paragraph (b).*

Amendment of section 44 of the *Constitution*

4. *Section 44 of the principal Act is amended in subsection (1) by deleting paragraph (a).*

Amendment of section 75 of the *Constitution*

5. The *Constitution* is amended by deleting section 75 and substituting the following:

“Certain vacancies in office of the Leader of the Opposition

75. During any period in which there is a vacancy in the office of Leader of the Opposition by reason of the fact that no person is both qualified in accordance with this *Constitution*, for, and willing to accept, appointment to that office, the Governor-General shall

- (a) after consultation with the political parties which do not support the Government, act in his discretion in the exercise of any function in respect of which it is provided in the *Constitution* that the Governor-General shall act in accordance with the advice of the Leader of the Opposition; and
- (b) act on the recommendation of the Prime Minister in the exercise of any function in respect of which it is provided in this *Constitution* that the Governor-General shall act on the recommendation of the Prime Minister after consultation with the Leader of the Opposition.”.

Read three times and passed the House of Assembly this
day of _____, 2018.

Speaker

Read three times and passed the Senate this _____ day of
, 2018.

President