

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2019

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The *Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2019* would alter the *Constitution of Barbados* by

- (a) deleting the provision in section 15 that authorises the mandatory imposition of the sentence of death for the offence of murder;
- (b) redefining the effect of existing law clause in section 26; and
- (c) refining the exercise by the Governor-General of the Prerogative of Mercy in section 78.

Clause 1: Clause 1 states that this Act may be cited as the *Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2019*.

Clause 2: Clause 2 repealed and replaced section 15 to remove the provision authorising a mandatory imposition of death for the offence of murder.

Clause 3: Clause 3 redefine the effect of existing law clause.

Clause 4: Clause 4 repealed and replaced section 78 to remove the Governor-General's capacity to direct that there should be time limits within which person may appeal to, or consult, any person or body of persons (other than Her Majesty in Council) outside Barbados in relation to an offence.