

2019-10-14

**OBJECTS AND REASONS**

This Bill would amend the *Queen Elizabeth Hospital Act*, Cap. 54 to establish the posts of executive chairman, chief operations officer and executive director of clinical and diagnostic services and to provide for related matters.

*Arrangement of Sections*

1. Short title
2. Amendment of section 7 of Cap. 54
3. Amendment of section 9 of Cap. 54
4. Insertion of new sections 9A and 9B into Cap. 54
5. Amendment of the *First Schedule* to Cap. 54
6. Amendment of the *Second Schedule* to Cap. 54

SCHEDULE

## **BARBADOS**

A Bill entitled

An Act to amend the *Queen Elizabeth Hospital Act*, Cap. 54.

ENACTED by the Parliament of Barbados as follows:

### **Short title**

- 1.** This Act may be cited as the *Queen Elizabeth Hospital (Amendment) Act, 2019*.

**Amendment of section 7 of Cap. 54**

**2.** *Section 7 of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Act, in this Act referred to as the principal Act, is amended by deleting subsection (1) and substituting the following:*

“(1) The Board may delegate such of its functions as it thinks expedient for the purpose of effectively transacting the business of the Board to the Executive Chairman, to any committee appointed or established by the Board or to any of its employees.”

**Amendment of section 9 of Cap. 54**

**3.** *Section 9 of the principal Act is amended by deleting subsections (2) and (3) and substituting the following:*

“(2) The Board shall appoint as employees a Chief Operations Officer and the following executive directors:

- (a) Executive Director of Human Resources;
- (b) Executive Director of Medical Services;
- (c) Executive Director of Nursing Services;
- (d) Executive Director of Support Services;
- (e) Executive Director of Financial Services;
- (f) Executive Director of Engineering Services; and
- (g) Executive Director of Clinical and Diagnostic Services.

(3) The Chief Operations Officer shall

- (a) report to the Executive Chairman on the operational management of the Hospital; and

- (b) have responsibility for the operational management of the Hospital including:
  - (i) maintaining external accreditations;
  - (ii) ensuring the effective planning and implementation of capital works projects;
  - (iii) ensuring there is a current plan for disaster management; and
  - (iv) maintaining an effective information technology and cyber security infrastructure.
- (4) The Executive Directors referred to in subsection (2) shall
  - (a) report to the Chief Operations Officer; and
  - (b) provide support to the Chief Operations Officer in their respective technical areas.
- (5) All persons employed by the Board shall act under the general superintendence and direction of the Board in the performance of their duties.”.

**Insertion of new sections 9A and 9B into Cap. 54**

**4.** *The principal Act is amended by inserting the following new sections immediately after section 9:*

**“Appointment of an Executive Chairman**

**9A.(1)** The Minister shall, with the approval of the Cabinet, appoint an Executive Chairman.

(2) The Executive Chairman is an employee of the Hospital and is subject to the directions of the Board and is responsible to the Board for the execution of its policy and the management of its affairs.

- (3) The Board may employ the Executive Chairman at such remuneration and on such terms and conditions.
- (4) The Executive Chairman shall
- (a) manage the overall operations and resources of the Hospital;
  - (b) report directly to the Minister on matters related to the overall operations and resources of the Hospital and on matters pertaining to the Board;
  - (c) ensure the objectives of the Board are met including:
    - (i) ensuring the efficient delivery of timely, responsive, patient-centred health care;
    - (ii) implementing strict adherence to principles of good governance;
    - (iii) ensuring optimal human resources output from staff and ensuring continuous staff development;
    - (iv) ensuring the acquisition of appropriate equipment and technologies;
    - (v) maintaining the Hospital's infrastructure, equipment and technologies;
    - (vi) fostering a culture of medical research; and
  - (d) set targets and monitor implementation; and
  - (e) be accountable for the performance of the Hospital.

**Removal of an Executive Chairman**

**9B.** The Executive Chairman shall not be removed without the approval of the Minister.”.

**Amendment of the *First Schedule* to Cap. 54****5. *The First Schedule to the principal Act is amended by deleting paragraph (1) and substituting the following:***

“1.(1) The Board shall consist of 13 members who shall be appointed by the Minister by instrument in writing.

(2) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), members of staff of the Hospital shall not be appointed as members of the Board.

(3) The Minister may appoint the Executive Chairman as a member of the Board.

(4) The members of the Board to be appointed under sub-paragraph (1) shall comprise:

(a) the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health *ex officio* or the nominee of that person;

(b) the Chief Medical Officer *ex officio* or the nominee of that officer;

(c) the Executive Chairman; and

(d) persons who possess the qualifications set out in section 5(3) in relation to the following disciplines:

(i) accounting;

(ii) engineering;

(iii) finance;

(iv) human resource management and industrial relations;

(v) information technology;

(vi) law;

- (vii) management operations;
  - (viii) medicine;
  - (ix) nursing; and
  - (x) paramedical services.
- (5) The Minister shall appoint
- (a) the Executive Chairman as Chairman of the Board; and
  - (b) the Deputy Chairman from among the members of the Board.
- (6) The names of the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman and the other members of the Board shall be published in the *Official Gazette* within 3 months of an appointment.”.

**Amendment of the *Second Schedule* to Cap. 54**

**6.**            *The Second Schedule to the principal Act is deleted and the Second Schedule set out in the Schedule to this Act is substituted.*



**SCHEDULE**

*(Section 6)*

**“SECOND SCHEDULE**

*(Section 19(2C)*

*Appeal to Privy Council*

- 1.** Where upon an application for a review by an officer the Board has confirmed the decision in respect of the officer, an application may be made in writing to the Governor-General to have the matter referred to the Privy Council.
- 2.** The application shall

  - (a)* be made within 14 days of the date on which the officer was advised in writing of the decision of the Board;
  - (b)* be transmitted to the Governor-General by the Chief Operations Officer pursuant to paragraph 3.
- 3.** Together with the application referred to in paragraph (2) *(b)*, the Chief Operations Officer shall transmit the complete report of all the proceedings in the matter.”.

Read three times and passed the House of Assembly this  
day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

**Speaker**

Read three times and passed the Senate this \_\_\_\_\_ day of  
, 2019.

**President**