

2021-07-19

OBJECTS AND REASONS

This Bill would amend the *Constitution* to make provision for the performance of the functions of the Prime Minister and other Ministers in certain events.

Arrangement of Sections

1. Short title
2. Amendment of section 29 of the Constitution
3. Amendment of section 67 of the Constitution
4. Amendment of section 68 of the Constitution

BARBADOS

A Bill entitled

An Act to amend the *Constitution of Barbados* to make provision for the functions of the Prime Minister and other Ministers in certain events.

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, 2021*.

Amendment of section 29 of the Constitution

2. *Section 29(1) of the Constitution is amended by inserting immediately after the word Barbados, the words “or is on vacation leave”.*

Amendment of section 67 of the Constitution

3. *Section 67 of the Constitution is amended by deleting subsection (1) and substituting the following:*

“(1) Whenever the Prime Minister is unable, by reason of his

(a) illness or absence from Barbados; or

(b) absence from office on vacation leave

to perform the functions of his office, the Governor-General may by instrument under the Public Seal, authorise any other Minister who is a member of the House of Assembly to perform the functions conferred on the Prime Minister by this *Constitution* (other than the functions conferred by subsection (3)).”.

Amendment of section 68 of the Constitution

4. *Section 68(1) of the Constitution is amended by deleting subsection (1) and substituting the following:*

“(1) Whenever a Minister, other than the Prime Minister, is unable by reason of his

(a) illness or absence from Barbados; or

(b) absence from office on vacation leave,

to perform the functions of his office, the Governor-General may, by instrument under the Public Seal, appoint a member of the Senate or the House of Assembly to act as Minister and authorise him to perform the functions of the office of the absent Minister, or assign the functions the office of the absent Minister to another Minister and authorise the other Minister to perform the functions of the office of the absent Minister:

Provided that this subsection shall have effect in relation to any period between a dissolution of Parliament and the day on which the next election of members of the House of Assembly is held as if Parliament had not been dissolved.”.