
**CONSTITUTION OF GRENADA (FIXED DATE FOR ELECTIONS)
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2016**

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The *clauses* of the Bill for the *Constitution of Grenada (Fixed Date for Elections) (Amendment) Act*, its short title by its *clause 1(1)*, would amend the Constitution for certain purposes. *Clauses 1(2)* spells out that the Act shall be read and construed as altering the Constitution.

Clause 3 would alter section 52, and *clause 4* would insert a new section 52A, to enable Parliament to provide for a fixed date for general elections to the House of Representatives.

The date of commencement of the Act would be appointed by the Governor-General by proclamation published in the *Gazette*, by *clause 1(3)*; not to have effect retroactively.

.....
A. K. Cajeton Hood
HON. ATTORNEY-GENERAL

**CONSTITUTION OF GRENADA (FIXED DATE FOR ELECTIONS)
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2016**

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

**PART I
PRELIMINARY**

1. Short title, commencement and alteration of the Constitution
2. Interpretation

**PART II
ALTERATIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION**

3. Alteration of section 52 of the Constitution
4. Insertion of section 52A in the Constitution

**CONSTITUTION OF GRENADA (FIXED DATE FOR ELECTIONS)
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2016**

GRENADA

ACT NO. 2016

AN ACT to alter the Constitution of Grenada to authorise Parliament to set a fixed date for General Elections.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and the House of Representatives of Grenada, and by the authority of the same as follows—

**PART I
PRELIMINARY**

Short title, commencement and alteration of the Constitution

1. (1) This Act may be cited as the—

**CONSTITUTION OF GRENADA (FIXED DATE FOR ELECTIONS)
(AMENDMENT) ACT, 2016.**

(2) This Act shall come into effect on such date as may be appointed by Proclamation issued by the Governor-General and published in the *Gazette*; and different dates may be appointed for the various provisions of this Act;

Provided that no provision of this Act shall have effect retroactively to any date prior to the commencement of this Act.

(3) This Act shall be read and construed as altering the Constitution.

Interpretation

2. In this Act—

“**Constitution**” means the Constitution of Grenada which is set out in Schedule 1 to the Grenada Constitution Order 1973;

“**Constitution Order**” means the Grenada Constitution Order 1973.

PART II
ALTERATIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION

Alteration of section 52 of the Constitution

3. Section 52 of the Constitution is altered in subsection (2) by inserting after the words “five years” the words “or such lesser number of years as may be prescribed by Parliament”.

Insertion of section 52A in the Constitution

4. The Constitution is altered by inserting after section 52 the following—

“Fixed period for elections

52A. (1) Notwithstanding section 52 (2) of this Constitution and subject to subsection (3) of this section, Parliament may enact a law providing for general elections to be held within a fixed period of time after a fixed number of years, not exceeding five years, from the date of the first sitting of Parliament after any dissolution of Parliament.

(2) If Parliament enacts a law under subsection (1) of this section, section 52 (2) of this Constitution shall not apply as long as that law is in operation.

(3) Nothing in this section, or in any law enacted under subsection (1) of this section, shall affect the right of the Governor-General under section 52 (1), and in accordance with section 52 (4), of this Constitution to prorogue or dissolve Parliament, or the right of Parliament to extend the life of Parliament under subsection 52 (3) of this Constitution.

Passed by the House of Representatives this 21st day of June, 2016.

WILLAN THOMPSON
Clerk to the House of Representatives

Passed by the Senate this 13th day of July, 2016.

WILLAN THOMPSON
Clerk to the Senate