

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA



PRISON (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2018

NO. OF 2018

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ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

Clauses

1. Short title
2. Interpretation
3. Amendment of section 2 of the principal Act

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AN ACT to amend the Prison Act Cap. 341 and for incidental and connected purposes.

ENACTED by the Parliament of Antigua and Barbuda as follows:

1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the Prison (Amendment) Act, 2018.

2. Interpretation

In this Act—

“principal Act” means the Prison Act, Cap. 341.

3. Amendment of section 2 – Interpretation

The principal Act is amended in section 2 by repealing the definition of the word “prison” and replacing it with these words –

“prison” means gaol, and any house, building or other enclosure occupied by prisoners and the land appurtenant thereto and any other place which the Minister may by Order publish in the official *Gazette* declare to be a prison.

Passed the House of Representatives
this the day of 2018.

Passed the Senate
this day of 2018

Speaker

President

Clerk to the House of Representatives

Clerk to the Senate

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The object of this amendment is to grant the Minister with responsibility for prison the privilege of being able to declare any place or building of his choosing to be a prison. Previous amendments to the legislation, that replaced the references to the Governor General with the term “Minister”, were aimed at creating efficiency in the day to day administration of the prison. The Governor General was left with the prerogative of mercy and with the task of declaring a place a prison by proclamation. However, upon further consideration, it was decided that the power to declare any building or place to be a prison should also be dealt with by the Minister as this too is an administrative function.

Hon. Steadroy C. O. Benjamin
Minister of Justice, Legal Affairs and Labour
Minister with responsibility for Prison