

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA



PUBLIC HEALTH (AMENDMENT) BILL 2018

2018, No.

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Public Health (Amendment) Bill,

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NO. OF 2018

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

CLAUSES

1. Short title
2. Interpretation

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
PUBLIC HEALTH (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2018
NO. OF 2018

AN ACT to amend the Public Health Act, Cap. 353 and for connected matters.

ENACTED by the Parliament of Antigua and Barbuda as follows:

1. Short title

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

2. Interpretation

In this Act, the “principal Act” means the Public Health Act, Cap. 353.

3. Amendment of section 2

Section 2 of the principal Act is amended by inserting the following definition immediately after the definition of “medical officer of health of a district”—

“Minister” means the Minister with responsibility for Health.

4. Amendment of section 8

Section 8 of the principal Act is amended by—

- (a) deleting subsection (1) and substituting the following—

“(1)The Minister shall appoint one of the members to act as Chairman of the Board.” and

- (b) deleting the proviso in subsection (5) and substituting the following—

“Provided that any other public officer who is a member of the Board shall not be entitled to receive any such remuneration or allowance.”

2018, No.

2018

Public Health (Amendment) Bill,

Passed by the House of Representatives
on the day of 2017.

Passed by the Senate on the
day of 2017.

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Speaker

.....
President

Clerk to the House of Representative

Clerk to the Senate

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The amendment being proposed to the Public Health Act, Cap. 353 is to give the Minister the discretion to select, from among the members appointed to the Central Board of Health, a member to act as Chairman of the Board instead of the Chief Medical Officer. Under the present legislative framework, the Chief Medical officer is *ex officio* Chairman of the Board.

The bill proposes to amend section 2 of the Act by inserting a definition for Minister. The amendment which was done to the Act in 2017 changed all references from Governor General to Minister, but a definition for Minister was not included.

In addition, the bill amends section 8 of the Act by giving the Minister the power to appoint any one of the Board members the responsibility to act as Chairman of the Board.

The proviso of section 8 is also amended to remove the original reference to the Chief Medical Officer as *ex officio* member of the Board.

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Hon. Molwyn Joseph
Minister of Health