

OBJECTS AND REASONS

This Bill would alter the Constitution to clarify and expand the functions of the Electoral and Boundaries Commission.

Arrangement of Sections

Short title

Amendment of section 41C of the Constitution

BARBADOS

A Bill entitled

An Act to alter the Constitution

Enacted by the Parliament of Barbados in accordance with provisions of section 49 of the Constitution as follows:

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2015.

Amendment of section 41C of the Constitution

The Constitution, Cap. 1966/1455 is amended by deleting section 41C and substituting the following:

“Functions and Autonomy of the Commission

41C. (1) The Commission shall

- (a) conduct elections in every constituency;
- (b) make provision for the nomination of candidates in respect of an election;
- (c) make provision for the registration and identification of electors in respect of an election;
- (d) establish a register of electors for each constituency and perform regular revisions of the register of electors for each constituency;

(e) observe, monitor, and evaluate elections;

(f) perform such other matters as appear to the Commission to be incidental or consequential to the discharge of the roles of the Commission; and

(g) perform such other functions as may be assigned under this Constitution or under any other enactment.

(2) In the exercise of its functions under this section, the Commission shall not be subject to the direction or control of any person or authority.”.

Read three times and passed the House of Assembly this day of, 2015.

Speaker

Read three times and passed the Senate this day of, 2015.

President

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2015

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2015 would alter the Constitution of Barbados to clarify and expand the functions of the Electoral and Boundaries Commission.

Clause 1: provides the short title of the Act.

Clause 2: repeals and replaces section 41C to detail the duties of the Electoral and Boundaries Commission, hereafter the Commission, in respect of an election and also to provide for the Commission to discharge the duties or functions granted under any enactment. This will, among other things, provide an unequivocal foundation for the Commission to discharge the functions granted under the National Registration Act, 2015- .