

REPUBLIC OF NAURU
PASSPORTS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2016
SECOND READING SPEECH
Honorable David Adeang MP
5th September 2016

Mr. Speaker Sir,

I have the pleasure of introducing to the House today a Bill for the *Passports (Amendment) Act 2016*.

The Bill provides for the cancellation of a Nauruan travel document based on reasonable grounds that the holder of the document has engaged in or, is likely to engage in conduct that might, for example, prejudice the national or economic security of the country; endanger the health or physical safety of other persons or constitute a serious offence against this Act or against another Act.

Further grounds for the cancellation of a travel document relate to:

- (i) the safety and welfare of children in Nauru or a foreign country.
- (ii) terrorism related activity or organised criminal activity;
- (iii) our robust tax legislation we now have in place. Tax evasion is a potential issue in the near future and tax evaders can easily leave the country unless ordered otherwise by the Court; and
- (iv) the enforcement of the orders of the court. This is already captured in sections 16 and 17 of the Act and is now clarified by this amendment. .

The Bill replaces the avenue for an appeal to be made to His Excellency by an affected person whose travel document has been cancelled.

Mr. Speaker, the explanatory memorandum explains this Bill in more detail.

I commend the Bill to the House.