

REPUBLIC OF NAURU

DISTRICT COURT BILL 2018

SECOND READING SPEECH

Honourable Baron Divavesi Waqa MP

10 May 2018

Mr. Speaker Sir,

I am pleased to introduce to the House today the District Court Bill 2018.

Mr Speaker, the Supreme and District Courts have existed in the Republic for 46 years and it has become a formidable institution. The District Court being the subordinate court has heard and determined civil and criminal matters more often than the Supreme Court and has provided means of redress, protection and the prudent delivery of justice.

The proposed Bill recognises the need to continue the power and jurisdiction of the District Court but at the same time align with the Supreme Court and Nauru Court of Appeal Bills to ensure there no inconsistency or ambiguity in the court system.

The Bill also prevents the abuse of court process by streamlining appeals, review and transfers of cases in between Supreme and District Court to maintain the integrity and unnecessary delay in delivery of justice.

Mr Speaker, the explanatory memorandum explains the provisions of the Bill.

I commend the Bill to the House.