

REPUBLIC OF NAURU
PUBLIC SERVICE (AMENDMENT) BILL 2019
SECOND READING SPEECH
Honourable Baron Divavesi Waqa MP
21 March 2019

Mr. Speaker Sir,

I introduce to the House today the *Public Service (Amendment) Bill 2019*.

Mr Speaker, the Bill aims to rectify certain inconsistencies in respect of public service employees who intend to contest an election for the Parliament. There are three different occasions when an election for the Parliament may be held:

- (a) General election which is held after the completion of the full three-year term of the Parliament under Article 41(7) of the Constitution;
- (b) A by-election which is held as a consequence of a seat becoming vacant in the Parliament under Article 32 of the Constitution;
- (c) An election which is held as a result of the dissolution of the Parliament sooner than its full three year term.

The proposed legislation now brings an end to any anxiety amongst employees of the public service who intend to contest an election. This now allows the intending candidates to resign in an orderly manner with great certainty. Another important consideration is that the proposed amendment now explicitly preserves the Constitutional right of any public service employee to contest an election without breaching the Public Service Act.

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

I commend the Bill to the House.