

REPUBLIC OF NAURU
INTEPRETATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2020

SECOND READING SPEECH

Honourable Maverick Eoe MP

4 June 2020

Mr Speaker Sir,

I have the responsibility of introducing to the House today the *Interpretation (Amendment) Bill 2020*.

Mr Speaker, the *Interpretation Act 2011* is one of the fundamental Acts of the Republic. In making, reading and applying all of our written laws, this Act is continuously working, providing clarity and definitions and rules for efficiency and ease of use.

Sir, this Bill is intended to improve and update the *Interpretation Act* in relation to references to correct terminology and defining often used terms in our written laws. This means that a number of terms and phrases need not be defined in individual written laws as such terms and phrases are defined in the *Interpretation Act*. This provides for consistency in the use and meaning of terms and phrases. This also includes contemporary terms relating to the use of electronic and digital communication.

In addition, this Bill provides that the computation or calculation of time to be done under a written law is extremely important for meeting legal requirements. For that purpose, the way laws are currently drafted may result in different methods of calculation of days. This Bill clarifies the interpretation on the calculation of time so that there is uniformity in all legislation.

Mr Speaker, the Bill I have introduced today makes minor but essential changes to the *Interpretation Act* so that the often used terms and phrases operate in a way that is consistent across the board.

Mr Speaker, the explanatory memorandum details the provisions of the Bill. Sir, I request that the explanatory memorandum be read and recorded in the Hansard Reports.

I commend the Bill to the House.