

REPUBLIC OF NAURU
LAW REVISION AND CONSOLIDATION BILL 2019
SECOND READING SPEECH
Honourable David Adeang MP
11 June 2019

Mr. Speaker Sir,

I am pleased to introduce to the House today the *Law Revision and Consolidation Bill 2019*.

Mr Speaker, once an Act on a specific legal topic is enacted, it is often subsequently amended sometimes in significant respects. For example, the Motor Traffic Act 2014 has been amended five times since enactment in 2014. A person will have to look at 6 different Acts to ensure that they have looked at the entire Motor Traffic Act.

Mr Speaker, the objective of this Bill is to make our laws clearer and more accessible. The main purpose of revising and consolidating is to draw together different enactments on a topic into a single Act. That single Act usually replaces provisions in different Acts passed over a period of years.

The Bill serves three important functions. Firstly, it removes confusion by amending incorrect or out of date provisions. Secondly, it corrects minor technical errors such as grammatical errors and numbering errors. Thirdly, it combines the original legislation with its amendments into one package. The Bill:

- sets out the contents of a revised edition of our laws;
- sets out the format and marking of a revised edition;
- provides for the enactment of revised and consolidated laws which requires a Bill to be tabled for Parliament's endorsement of the revised and consolidated laws;

- provides for the effect of the revised laws, that it will not operate as new law; and
- provides that judicial notice shall be taken of the revised and consolidated laws.

A good revised and consolidated edition of our written laws has real practical benefits for those who work with the law such as legal practitioners and the courts, those concerned with making it such as Parliament and Government and for those who need to access or use it such as public servants, regular citizens and businesses.

This Bill was consulted with members of the legal profession.

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

I commend the Bill to the House.