



Tonga

**INTERPRETATION (AMENDMENT) BILL  
2016**





# INTERPRETATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2016

## Arrangement of Sections

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### Section

1	Short Title and Interpretation.....	5
2	Section 3 repealed and replaced.....	5
3	Section 23 amended .....	6

<b>EXPLANATORY NOTES</b>	<b>7</b>
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## **INTERPRETATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2016**

### **A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE INTERPRETATION ACT (CAP. 1).**

**BE IT ENACTED** by the King and Legislative Assembly of Tonga in the Legislature of the Kingdom as follows:

#### **1 Short Title and Interpretation**

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Interpretation (Amendment) Act 2016.
- (2) In this Act, the Interpretation Act (Cap.1), as amended, shall be referred to as the “Principal Act”.

#### **2 Section 3 repealed and replaced**

The Principal Act is amended by repealing section 3 and replacing it with the following –

##### **“3 When Acts come into force**

- (1) An Act to which His Majesty's Assent has been given shall come into operation on the day of publication in the Gazette, unless the contrary intention appears.

Provided that Acts pursuant to clause 79 of the Act of Constitution of Tonga (Cap. 2), shall come into operation on the day it is signed by His Majesty.

- (2) Where an Act comes into operation in accordance with subsection (1), or part of that Act, is expressed to come into operation on a particular day, that Act or that part, as the case may be, comes into operation immediately on the expiration of the last preceding day.”.

### **3 Section 23 amended**

Section 23 of the Principal Act is amended –

- (a) by deleting the words “on receiving His Majesty’s Assent” and replacing them with the words “in accordance with section 3”; and
- (b) by deleting the words “His Majesty’s Assent has been given to the Act” and replacing them with the words “publication in the Gazette or signing by His Majesty, as the case may be pursuant to section 3,”.

Passed by the Legislative Assembly this            day of            2016.

## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

(These notes do not form part of the Bill and are only intended to explain its purpose and scope)

The principal purpose of the amendments are to amend sections 3 and 23 of the Principal Act so that it is consistent with clauses 56 and 79 of the Act of Constitution of Tonga (Cap.2) in relation to the coming into force of Acts.

**Hon. Siaosi Sovaleni**  
**Deputy Prime Minister**