

# REPRINT

## **PRIME MINISTER'S (PENSIONS AND BENEFITS) ACT 2014**

**As in force at: 5 February 2024**

<b>STATUS:    CURRENT</b>
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For details see Endnotes
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**AN ACT TO PROVIDE PENSIONS AND OTHER BENEFITS FOR PERSONS WHO CEASE TO HOLD THE OFFICE OF PRIME MINISTER AND FOR THEIR WIDOWS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR MATTERS INCIDENTAL TO THE FOREGOING OR CONNECTED THEREWITH.**

## **PRIME MINISTER’S (PENSIONS AND BENEFITS) ACT 2014**

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# PRIME MINISTER'S (PENSIONS AND BENEFITS) ACT 2014

As in force at: 5 February 2024

## 1 Short title and commencement

This Act may be cited as the *Prime Minister's (Pensions and Benefits) Act, 2014*, and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may appoint by notice published in the *Gazette*.

## 2 Interpretation

In this Act:

**"Minister"** means the Prime Minister;

**"Prime Minister"** means any person who has held the office of Prime Minister having been elected Prime Minister pursuant to section 33 in accordance with Schedule 2 of the *Constitution*, and who ceases or has ceased to hold office; and

**"spouse"** means a person who is married in accordance with the *Islander's Marriage Act* (Cap. 171).

## 3 Prime Minister's pension

Every person who having held the office of Prime Minister on or after the 7<sup>th</sup> day of July 1978 shall, subject to section 4, be paid a pension during the lifetime of that person.

## 4 Right to pension to cease temporarily

(1) Where a Prime Minister to whom a pension is payable:

(a) is re-elected and re-appointed to the Office of Prime Minister;  
or

(b) is appointed to a public office,

the pension payable shall cease to be payable during the time the person holds any of the aforesaid offices.

- (2) When a Prime Minister ceases to hold any office as mentioned in subsection (1) the right to pension shall be restored.

**5 Annual rate of pension**

The pension payable shall be at an annual rate of 60% of the current salary payable to the incumbent.

**6 Widow's pension**

- (1) Where a person dies while he is the Prime Minister or while he is entitled to receive a pension his spouse shall be entitled to be paid a pension at an annual rate of 40% of the pension receivable by the pensioner at the time of his death.
- (2) A spouse mentioned in subsection (1) shall not be entitled to receive a pension under this section if she remarries.

**7 Sources and methods of payment of pension**

Any pension payable under this Act shall:

- (a) be charged on and paid out of the Consolidated Fund; and;
- (b) be paid fortnightly.

**8 Protection of pension**

Any pension payable under this Act shall not:

- (a) be assignable or transferable except for the purpose of satisfying a debt due to the government or an order of any court for the payment of periodical sums of money towards the maintenance of the spouse, and a child being a minor of the person to whom the pension is payable; or
- (b) be liable to be attached, sequestered or levied upon for or in respect of any debt or claim whatever except a debt due to the government or any sum recoverable pursuant to such order of any court as is mentioned in paragraph (a).

## **9 Ex-gratia payment**

- (1) A Prime Minister shall be paid an *ex-gratia* payment of \$75,000.00 or such greater sum, equivalent to and payable to a Prime Minister under the current *Members of Parliament (Entitlements) Commission Regulations* for each term of office he has served.
- (2) The spouse of a Prime Minister shall also be qualified to receive an *ex-gratia* payment equivalent to fifty percent of the payment received by the Prime Minister pursuant to subsection (1).
- (3) On the coming into operation of this Act, the provisions relating to pensions payable under the *Members of Parliament (Entitlements) Commission Regulations* to Members of Parliament who have held the office of Prime Minister shall cease.

## **10 Residence**

- (1) A Prime Minister shall be provided with a residence free of rent and the cost of water, gas and electricity shall be paid for by the Government.
- (2) If no residence is provided in accordance with subsection (1), a Prime Minister, shall be entitled to a monthly housing allowance at a rate equivalent to the upper limit of the range prescribed or determined from time to time by the *Members of Parliament (Entitlements) Commission Regulations* in respect of Cabinet Ministers irrespective of whether the Prime Minister lives in his own house.

## **11 Vehicle**

- (1) A Prime Minister shall be provided with a vehicle for use in connection with his normal duties, or an outboard motor or boat allowance, if he resides in his village.
- (2) If no vehicle is provided in accordance with subsection (1), a Prime Minister shall be entitled to a monthly transport allowance at a rate determined or prescribed from time to time by the *Members of Parliament (Entitlements) Commission Regulations* in respect of Cabinet Ministers irrespective of whether the Prime Minister owns a private vehicle.

**12 Medical treatment**

A Prime Minister shall be entitled to medical treatment as prescribed from time to time under the *Members of Parliament (Entitlements) Commission Regulations*.

**13 National Representative**

Where a Prime Minister is assigned to undertake any assignment on behalf of Solomon Islands, he shall be entitled to receive protocols, courtesies and benefits, as may be appropriate.

**14 Regulations**

The Minister may make regulations in respect of all matters that are required or are reasonably necessary or convenient to prescribe and for carrying into effect any of the purposes or provisions of the Act.

## ENDNOTES

### 1

#### KEY

amd = amended	Pt = Part
Ch = Chapter	rem = remainder
Div = Division	renum = renumbered
exp = expires/expired	rep = repealed
GN = Gazette Notice	Sch = Schedule
hdg = heading	Sdiv = Subdivision
ins = inserted	SIG = Solomon Islands Gazette
lt = long title	st = short title
LN = Legal Notice	sub = substituted
nc = not commenced	

### 2

#### LIST OF LEGISLATION

***Prime Minister's (Pensions and Benefits) Act 2014 (No. 17 of 2014)***

Assent date	22 September 2014
Gazetted	22 September 2014
Commenced	10 February 2015

***Legislation Amendment, Repeal and Validation Act 2023 (No. 17 of 2023)***

Assent date	29 December 2023
Gazetted date	29 December 2023
Commenced	5 February 2024

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#### LIST OF AMENDMENTS

s 8	amd by Act No. 17 of 2023
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