



CITIZENSHIP (AMENDMENT) ACT 2023

(NO. 5 OF 2023)



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***PASSED** by the National Parliament this 20th day of July 2023.*

(This printed impression has been carefully compared by me with the Bill passed by Parliament and found by me to be a true and correct copy of the Bill)

David Kusilifu
Clerk to National Parliament

***ASSENTED** to in His Majesty's name and on His Majesty's behalf this 4th day of August 2023.*

Sir David Vunagi
Governor-General

Date of Commencement: see section 2.

AN ACT TO AMEND THE CITIZENSHIP ACT 2018

ENACTED BY THE NATIONAL PARLIAMENT OF SOLOMON ISLANDS.

CITIZENSHIP (AMENDMENT) ACT 2023

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CITIZENSHIP (AMENDMENT) ACT 2023

1 Short title

This Act may be cited as the *Citizenship (Amendment) Act 2023*.

2 Commencement

This Act commences on a date to be nominated by the Minister by notice in the *Gazette*.

3 Definition

“principal Act” means the *Citizenship Act 2018*.

4 Section 14 amended

The principal Act is amended, in section 14(2)(a) by:

- (a) inserting after the word “citizenship” the following, “as evidenced by an original or certified copy of the birth certificate;” and
- (b) inserting the following after section 14(2)(a):
 - “(aa) is the holder of a valid passport, and provides the original or a certified copy of the same; and
 - (ab) if the holder of a driver’s licence, provides a certified copy of the same; and”, and
- (c) repeal and replace section 14(2)(d) with the following:
 - “(d) is likely to continue to reside in Solomon Islands or to maintain a close and continuing relationship with Solomon Islands as supported by:
 - (i) evidence of economic sustainability, such evidence is inclusive of, but not limited to:
 - (A) a formal employment agreement in the Solomon Islands; or

- (B) record of employment of more than 5 years to the date of the application, in the Solomon Islands; or
 - (C) a valid record of the National Provident Fund contributions for the past 5 years or more, in the Solomon Islands; or
 - (D) financial bank record for sustenance to the satisfaction of the Commission; or
- (ii) evidence that the person has capital properties to maintain a close and continuing relationship with Solomon Islands, such evidence is inclusive of, but not limited to:
- (A) land title registered in the person's name under the Land and Titles Act; or
 - (B) tangible property such as a building registered under the person's name; or
 - (C) land or property development machinery registered under the person's name; or
- (iii) evidence of the person's financial contribution to the economy of the Solomon Islands, such evidence is inclusive of, but not limited to:
- (A) investment in a company registered under the person's name; or
 - (B) a minimum 10% or more share of an Investment Company registered under the person's name; and
- (iv) a person must provide the relevant original or certified documents and any authentic information to satisfy the evidence in section 14(2)(d)(i), section 14(2)(d)(ii) and section 14(2)(d)(iii); and
- (v) the Commission has discretion to accept all or any evidence under section 14(2)(d)(i), section 14(2)(d)(ii) and section 14(2)(d)(iii); and” and

(d) inserting after subsection (7) the following:

“(8) For the avoidance of doubt, this section (Eligibility for citizenship) does not apply to a child under 18 years of a parent or parents who are birth citizens.”

5 Section 16 amended

(a) in subsection (1)(a) by deleting “5 years within the 10 year period” and substituting with “10 years”; and

(b) by inserting a new subsection (3):

“(3) For the avoidance of doubt, this section (Residence requirement) does not apply to a person who was born in Solomon Islands; or is a child of a parent or parents who are birth citizens.”

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