

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

REPORT

of the

SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE

on the

MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2001
(Bill No. 13/2001)

Presented to the National Assembly
By the Chairman of the Committee

on

6TH DECEMBER, 2001

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON THE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2001

The Medical Practitioners (Amendment) Bill 2001

The Medical Practitioners (Amendment) Bill 2001 – Bill No. 13 of 2001 – seeks to amend the Medical Practitioners Act 1991 (No. 16 of 1991) to provide for changes in the composition of and in the procedure for the election of Members of the Medical Council of Guyana.

Publication, Introduction and First Reading

2. The Bill was published in the Gazette and was introduced in the National Assembly and read the first time on 15th November, 2001.

Second Reading

3. At the sitting of the National Assembly on 29th November, 2001, the Minister of Health, the Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsamy, M.P., moved and spoke on the motion for the second reading of the Bill. The Leader of the Opposition, Mr. H. Desmond Hoyte, S.C., M.P., spoke to the motion. After the Minister had replied, the motion was put and carried and the Bill was read a second time.

Committal to Select Committee

4. On a motion moved by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, the Hon. Reepu Daman Persaud, O.R., J.P., M.P., immediately after the Bill was read a second time on 29th November, 2001, the Assembly committed the Bill for consideration by a Special Select Committee.

Members of the Special Select Committee

5. After the Sitting of the National Assembly on 29th November, 2001, the Committee of Selection met and nominated the following eleven Members of the National Assembly to comprise the Special Select Committee to consider the Bill:-

Members from the People’s Progressive Party/Civic (6)

The Hon. Gail Teixeira, M.P.,
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

The Hon. Dr. Henry B. Jeffrey, M.P.,
Minister of Education

The Hon. Rev. Dr. Ramnauth D.A. Bisnauth, M.P.,
Minister of Labour, Human Services and Social Security

The Hon. Carolyn Rodrigues, M.P.,
Minister of Amerindian Affairs

The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.,
Minister of Health

Mr. Bernard C. DeSantos, S.C., M.P.

Members from the People's National Congress/Reform (4)

Mr. Winston S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P.

Mrs. Clarissa S. Riehl, M.P.,
Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

Dr. Dalgleish Joseph, M.D., M.P.

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P.

Member from the Guyana Action Party/Working People's Alliance (1)

Mrs. Sheila V.A. Holder, M.P.

Chairman of the Committee

6. At its first meeting which was fixed by the Speaker of the National Assembly for 5.00 p.m. on Monday, 3rd December, 2001, the Special Select Committee elected the Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P., Minister of Health, to be Chairman of the Committee.

Meetings of the Committee

7. The Committee met on the following two occasions to consider the Bill:-

Monday, 3rd December, 2001

Tuesday, 4th December, 2001.

Chief Parliamentary Counsel

8. The Committee had the benefit and advice at its Meetings of the Chief Parliamentary Counsel, Mr. Cecil Dhurjon, C.C.H., S.C.

of the following documents:-

The Medical Practitioners Act 1991 (No. 16 of 1991)
The Medical Practitioners (Amendment) Act 1999 (No. 14 of 1999)
The Medical Practitioners (Amendment) Bill 2001 (Bill No. 13 of 2001)
The remarks which were made in the National Assembly on the Bill on
29th November, 2001, by the Leader of the Opposition.

Consideration of Bill and Amendments Made

10. The Select Committee considered the four clauses of the Bill and --

Agreed with Clause 1,

Amended Clauses 2, 3 and 4, and

Added a Clause 5.

11. A list of the amendments made, as drafted by the Chief Parliamentary Counsel, and agreed to by the Committee, is attached.

Report of Select Committee

12. At its Meeting on 4th December, 2001, the Special Select Committee on the Medical Practitioners (Amendment) Bill 2001 agreed that a Report from the Committee on the Bill should be prepared and presented to the National Assembly at its next Sitting on Thursday, 6th December, 2001.

13. This Report is accordingly hereby submitted to the National Assembly for adoption.

Verbatim Records

14. Verbatim Records of the Proceedings of the two Meetings of the Select Committee have been prepared.

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

5th December, 2001

THE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2001

Bill No. 13 of 2001

Amendments made by the Special Select Committee of the National Assembly

Clause 2
the proviso to the
inserted paragraph

- (a) Insert before the word "election" the word "first".
- (b) Insert after the word "Minister" where that word occurs for the first time the words "within thirty days of the coming into operation of this paragraph".

Clause 3
the inserted
section 26
subsection 2

Delete the words "however constituted".

Clause 4
the substituted
subparagraph (d)

Delete the words "with the approval of the President".

Clause 5

Insert immediately after clause 4-

"Registration
deemed
valid.

5. Notwithstanding anything in this Act –

- (a) a medical practitioner registered with higher or additional qualification or training under section 7;
- (b) a person registered as a medical practitioner under section 6;
- (c) a person registered in the Annual Register of Medical Practitioners pursuant to section 8;
- (d) a person registered with internship, institutional or full registration or with a licence under section 10,

between the period commencing on 20th December, 1999 and ending on the date when the Council is constituted and the members thereof enter upon the duties of their office shall be deemed to be duly, validly and lawfully registered in full compliance with every provision of this Act relating to such registration."