

**THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE 10<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2001**  
**LEGAL SUPPLEMENT — C**

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**BILL No. 1 of 2001**

*Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2001*

**PARLIAMENT OFFICE**  
Public Buildings,  
Georgetown,  
Guyana.

10<sup>th</sup> January, 2001

The following Bill which will be introduced in the National Assembly is published for general information.

*F. A. Narain,*  
Clerk of the National Assembly.



**GUYANA**  
**BILL No. 1 of 2001**  
**REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT)**  
**BILL 2001**

**ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS**

**SECTION**

1. Short title.
2. Amendment of the Principal Act.

2

A BILL  
Intituled

AN ACT to amend the Representation of the People Act.

A.D. 2001.

Enacted by the Parliament of Guyana:-

Short title.  
Cap. 1:03

1. This Act, which amends the Representation of the People Act, may be cited as the Representation of the People (Amendment) Act 2001.

Amendment  
Of the  
Principal  
Act.

2. The Principal Act is hereby amended in the following respects -

(a) in section II A,

(i) by the substitution for the word "sixty-five" in subsection (1) of the words "at least sixty-five";

(ii) by the deletion of the word "forty" in subsection (5);

(b) in section II C,

(i) by the substitution for the words "For the country" in subsection (3) of the words "Subject to the proviso to subsection (5) for the country";

(ii) by the substitution for the full-stop at the end of subsection (5) of a colon and by the insertion thereto of the following proviso-

"Provided that in the event that the arithmetical calculations of total seats allocated to a party for membership of the National Assembly in accordance with subsection (3) produce the result that a party is allocated a fewer number of seats than those it has already obtained on the basis of the calculations that are in accordance with subsection (2), the allocations based on the distribution of sixty-five seats shall be made; the number of geographical constituency seats already allocated to parties shall not be changed, thereby maintaining the total number of geographical constituency seats

at twenty-five; the total number of elected members of the National Assembly shall be increased to accommodate the allocations of the number of non-geographical members and no further calculation based on the increased size of the Assembly shall be done.”;

- (c) in section 12 -
- (i) by re-numbering the said section as subsection (1) thereof,
  - (ii) by the insertion immediately after subsection (1) as so re-numbered of the following subsection -

“(2) Notwithstanding anything in this Act or in any other written law-

- (i) the provisions of subsection (1) shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the national top-up list;
- (ii) the representative and deputy representative of the national top-up list may serve as representative and deputy representative of -
  - (a) each of the lists for the ten geographical constituencies; and
  - (b) each of the lists for the ten regional democratic councils.”;
- (d) by the substitution for subsections (5) and (6) of section 62A, of the following subsections -

“(5) The Elections Commission shall in respect of each geographical constituency publish the names of one or two nearest polling stations in each polling district where the sealed envelopes with the cast ballots shall be sent by the Returning Officer for the votes to be cast at such polling stations before the close of poll.

(6) In the presence of the polling agents the presiding officer shall verify and record the number of envelopes, with the cast ballots before casting the ballots contained in the envelopes at each polling station.”;

- (e) by the deletion of the words and each such ballot paper shall be stamped by the Chief Election Officer with the words “DISCIPLINED FORCES” in section 65K(2).

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the Representation of the People Act to provide -

- (i) for the eventuality on a final count of the votes, where the votes for a seat in a geographical constituency is less than that required for the quota for a seat in respect of the national top-up list;
- (ii) that the representative and deputy representative of the National top-up list may serve as representative and deputy representative for each of the lists of geographical constituencies and regional democratic councils;
- (iii) for the votes of the non-residents and disciplined forces votes to be counted at one or two polling stations in each polling district; and
- (iv) to remove references whereby votes of the disciplined forces may be identified by their being stamped.

*Reepu Daman Persaud*  
Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs.