

seal no 595/72



**GUYANA**

ACT NO. 13 OF 1972.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES (POSTPONEMENT OF ELECTIONS)  
ACT 1972

I assent,

*A. Chung*  
A. CHUNG,  
President.  
6<sup>th</sup> December, 1972

Arrangement of Sections

**PART I — PRELIMINARY**

Section

1. Short title and commencement.
2. Interpretation.

**PART II — POSTPONEMENT OF ELECTIONS OF  
COUNCILLORS**

3. Postponement of elections of councillors.
4. Election of Mayors, Deputy Mayors, Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen of local authorities.
5. Filling of vacancy in office of councillor.

**PART III — TERMINATION OF OPERATION OF PART II**

6. Termination of operation of Part II.

An Act to provide for the postponement of elections of councillors of local authorities and for purposes connected therewith.

A.D. 1972

Enacted by the Parliament of Guyana:—

**Part I — PRELIMINARY**

Short title  
and com-  
mencement.

1. This Act may be cited as the Local Authorities (Postponement of Elections) Act 1972, and shall be deemed to have come into operation on 31st October, 1972.

Interpreta-  
tion

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —  
“councillor” means a councillor of a local authority;

No. 23 of  
1969.

“local authority” has the meaning assigned to it in section 2(1) of the Local Authorities (Elections) Act 1969, and includes the council of a town established under section 33 of the Municipal and District Councils Act 1969;

No. 24 of  
1969.

“the Principal Acts” means —

- (a) the Local Authorities (Elections) Act 1969;
- (b) the Municipal and District Councils Act 1969;
- (c) the Local Government Ordinance.

Cap. 150.

**PART II — POSTPONEMENT OF ELECTIONS OF  
COUNCILLORS**

Postpone-  
ment of  
elections of  
councillors.

3. Anything in the Principal Acts to the contrary notwithstanding —  
  - (a) no election of councillors shall be held during the continuance in operation of this Part;
  - (b) the councillors who hold office as such at the commencement of this Act shall continue in office during the continuance in operation of this Part:

Provided that the seat of any such councillor may at any time become vacant in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal and District Councils Act 1969, or the Local Government Ordinance, as the case may be;

- (c) no person shall during the continuance in operation of this Part be required to perform any function in connection with the registration of voters or the holding of elections under the Principal Acts.

4. Nothing in this Act shall prevent or otherwise interfere with the election of Mayors, Deputy Mayors, Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen of local authorities in accordance with provisions of the Principal Acts and, for the purposes of any such election during the continuance in operation of this Part, the councillors for the time being entitled to hold office by virtue of sections 3 and 5 shall be deemed to be the councillors entitled to hold office for the purpose of electing the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, or Deputy Chairman of a local authority for the year for which he is elected:

Election of  
Mayors,  
Deputy  
Mayors,  
Chairmen,  
Vice-Chair-  
men and  
Deputy  
Chairmen of  
Local  
Authorities.

Provided that where by reason of an equality of votes cast at any such election no person is elected Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chairman or Vice-Chairman or Deputy Chairman, as the case may be, the Minister assigned responsibility for Local Government shall select one of the councillors receiving the greatest number of equal votes to be Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, or Deputy Chairman, as the case may be.

5. Where during the continuance in operation of this Part the seat of any councillor becomes vacant such vacancy may be filled in accordance with the provisions of section 103 of the Local Authorities (Elections) Act 1969.

Filling of  
vacancy in  
office of  
councillors

### Part III — TERMINATION OF OPERATION OF PART II

6.(1) Part II shall cease to be in operation on the expiration of 31st October, 1974, or on such earlier date as the Minister assigned responsibility for elections to the National Assembly (hereinafter in this section referred to as "the Minister") may, by order declare, and Part II shall thereupon cease to be of any effect, without prejudice however, to anything lawfully done thereunder.

Termination  
of operation  
of Part II.

(2) Notwithstanding that Part II ceases to be of any effect, the Minister may, by order, declare that those persons who were councillors immediately before Part II ceased to be of any effect, shall continue in office as such until their successors elected at elections held by virtue of this section assume office.



(3) Anything in paragraph (c) of section 3 to the contrary notwithstanding, for the purposes of the holding of the first elections of councillors after Part II ceases to have effect, the provisions of the Principal Acts shall apply thereto subject, however, to such modifications and adaptations thereof as may be specified by the Minister by order made under this section if he considers it necessary or expedient for the purpose.

*Passed by the National Assembly on the 1st of December, 1972.*



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

(Bill No. 12/1972)  
(SD: 11/3 111)