

AS AMENDED IN THE H.O.R.

No. 1 of 2016

First Session Eleventh Parliament Republic of
Trinidad and Tobago

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

BILL

AN ACT to provide for the variation of certain duties and
taxes and to introduce provisions of a fiscal nature
and for related matters.

THE FINANCE BILL, 2016

Explanatory Note

(These notes form no part of the Bill but are intended only to indicate its general purport)

The Bill seeks to provide for the variation of certain duties and taxes and to introduce provisions of a fiscal nature and for related matters.

PART I—Preliminary

Clause 1 would provide for the short title.

Clause 2 would provide in subclause (1) for the commencement of the Bill on January 1, 2016, subject to subclauses (2) and (3).

Subclause (2) would provide for the commencement of clauses 5(a), 6 and 8 on the date of assent. These are the clauses which provide for the change in the rate of business levy and the green fund levy.

Subclause (3) would provide for the commencement of clause 7(a) on February 1, 2016. That is, the clause which would provide for a change of the rate of value added tax from fifteen per cent to twelve and one half per cent.

PART II—Immigration Regulations

Clause 3 would amend the Immigration Regulations, Chap. 18:01 in order to exempt senior citizens from the payment of any fee for the issue of a passport and other travel document.

PART III—Motor Vehicle and Road Traffic

Clause 4 would amend the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, Chap. 48:50 in order to exempt senior citizens from the payment of fees for the issue of a driving permit.

PART IV—Income Tax

Clause 5 would provide for the repeal and replacement of section 18 of the Income Tax Act, Chap. 75:01 to increase the personal allowance of an individual from sixty thousand dollars to seventy-two thousand dollars.

Clause 5 would also amend section 5A(1) of the Income Tax Act, for consistency with the amendment to the Corporation Tax Act for which clause 6 would provide.

PART V—Corporation Tax

Clause 6 would provide for the amendment of section 3A of the Corporation Tax Act, Chap. 75:02 to increase the rate of business levy from 0.2 per cent to 0.6 per cent.

PART VI—Value Added Tax

Clause 7 would provide for the amendment of the Value Added Tax Act, Chap. 75:06 to reduce the rate of value added tax from fifteen per cent to twelve and one half per cent.

This clause would also provide for an increase of the value of commercial supplies a person may make without being required to register under the Act from three hundred and sixty thousand dollars (\$360,000) to five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).

PART VII—Miscellaneous Taxes

Clause 8 would provide for an amendment to the Miscellaneous Taxes Act, Chap. 77:01 to increase the rate of the green fund levy from 0.1 per cent to 0.3 per cent.

This Bill is a Money Bill.

THE FINANCE BILL, 2016

Arrangement of Clauses

Clause

1. Short title
2. Commencement
3. Chap. 18:01 amended
4. Chap. 48:50 amended
5. Chap. 75:01 amended
6. Chap. 75:02 amended
7. Chap. 75:06 amended
8. Chap. 77:01 amended

BILL

AN ACT to provide for the variation of certain duties and taxes and to introduce provisions of a fiscal nature and for related matters

[, 2016]

ENACTED by the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago as Enactment follows:

PART I PRELIMINARY

1. This Act may be cited as the Finance Act, 2016. Short title

Commencement

2. (1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3), this Act comes into force on 1st January, 2016.

(2) Sections 5(a), 6 and 8 come into force on the date of assent of this Act.

(3) Section 7(a) of this Act comes into force on 1st February, 2016

PART II

IMMIGRATION REGULATIONS

Chap. 18:01
amended

3. The Immigration Regulations is amended by inserting after regulation 53A, the following regulation:

*“Senior citizens
exempted from
passport fees*

53B. Notwithstanding regulation 53A, a citizen of Trinidad and Tobago who is sixty years of age or over is exempt from the payment of the fees shown in the Seventh Schedule in respect of the issue of a passport or any other travel or entry document.”.

PART III

MOTOR VEHICLES AND ROAD TRAFFIC

Chap. 48:50
amended

4. The Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act is amended—

(a) in section 2, by inserting after the definition of “certificate”, the following definition:

“ “citizen of Trinidad and Tobago” has the meaning assigned in section 2 of the Immigration Act;”;

Chap. 18:01

(b) in section 44(2), by deleting the word “On” and substituting the words “Subject to sections 61A(4) and 89(1A), on”;

(c) in section 61A—

(i) in subsection (1), by deleting the words “subsection (3)” and substituting the words “subsections (3) and (4)”; and

(ii) by inserting after subsection (3), the following subsection:

“(4) A citizen of Trinidad and Tobago who is sixty years of age or over is exempt from the payment of fees for the issue of a new driving permit under this section.”;

(d) in section 89, by inserting after subsection (1), the following subsection:

“(1A) Notwithstanding subsection (1), a citizen of Trinidad and Tobago who is sixty years of age or over is exempt from the payment of the fees in respect of a driving permit in the First Schedule.”; and

(e) in the First Schedule, at item 7(f), by deleting the word “sixty-five” and substituting the word “sixty”.

PART IV INCOME TAX

5. The Income Tax Act is amended—

Chap. 75:01
amended

(a) in section 5A(1), by deleting the words “0.2 per cent” and substituting the words “0.6 per cent”; and

(b) by repealing section 18 and substituting the following section:

18. In ascertaining chargeable
*Personal allowance income for any year—

(a) an individual to whom section 17 applies; and

- (b) an individual who is not resident in Trinidad and Tobago and in receipt of pension income accruing or derived from Trinidad and Tobago,

is entitled to a personal allowance of seventy-two thousand dollars.”.

PART V

CORPORATION TAX

Chap. 75:02
amended

6. The Corporation Tax Act is amended in section 3A, by deleting the words “0.2 per cent” and substituting the words “0.6 per cent”.

PART VI

VALUE ADDED TAX

Chap. 75:06
amended

7. The Value Added Tax Act is amended—
- (a) in section 7, by deleting the words “fifteen per cent” and substituting the words “twelve and one half per cent”;
 - (b) in section 21, by deleting the words “three hundred and sixty thousand”, wherever they occur, and substituting the words “five hundred thousand”; and
 - (c) in section 22, by deleting the words “three hundred and sixty thousand”, wherever they occur, and substituting the words “five hundred thousand”.

PART VII

MISCELLANEOUS TAXES

Chap. 77:01
amended

8. The Miscellaneous Taxes Act is amended in section 62(1), by—
- (a) deleting the words “With effect from 1st January 2001, there” and substituting the word “There”; and

(b) deleting the words "0.1 per cent" and substituting the words "0.3 per cent".

Passed in the House of Representatives this 12th day of January, 2016.

Clerk of the House

I confirm the above and certify that this is a Money Bill.

Speaker

Passed in the Senate this day of , 2016.

Clerk of the Senate

I confirm the above.

President of the Senate

No. 1 of 2016

FIRST SESSION

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT
REPUBLIC OF
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

BILL

AN ACT to provide for the variation of certain duties and taxes and to introduce provisions of a fiscal nature and for related matters

Received and read the

First time.....

Second time.....

Third time.....