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**Fifth Session Fifth Parliament Republic of Trinidad
and Tobago**



REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Act No. 51 of 2000

[L.S.]

AN ACT to amend the Representation of the People Act,
Chap. 2:01

[Assented to 12th September, 2000]

Enacted by the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago as Enactment
follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the Representation of Short title
the People (Amendment) Act, 2000.

Definition of
the Act

2. In this Act, “the Act” means the Representation of the People Act.

Change of
expressions
in Act

3. The Act is amended by deleting the words “registration record card” and “registration record cards” wherever they occur and substituting the words “registration record” and “registration records” respectively.

Section 2
amended

4. Section 2 of the Act is amended by—

(a) deleting the definition of “counting agent”;

(b) inserting after the definition of “registration area” the following new definition:

“registration record” includes all information with respect to an elector or non-elector required under the Act recorded electronically or on a registration card kept in a unit register;”;

(c) deleting the definition of “special ballot paper”; and

(d) inserting after the definition of “special elector”, the following new definition:

“ “special polling agent” means a special polling agent appointed under the Election Rules.”.

Section 3
amended

5. Section 3 of the Act is amended by inserting after subsection (5), the following subsections:

“ (6) There shall be an Assistant Chief Election Officer who is subject to the authority, direction and control of the Commission, and he shall perform such of the functions and exercise such of the powers of the Chief Election Officer as may be assigned to him by the Commission.

(7) In the absence of the Deputy Chief Election Officer or if the office is vacant, the Assistant Chief Election Officer may act in his place and, while so acting, shall possess the like powers and perform the like duties as a Deputy Chief Election Officer.”.

6. Section 4 of the Act is amended—

Section 4
amended

- (a) in subsection (2), by deleting the words “shall assign” and substituting the words “may assign”; and
- (b) in subsection (3)(b), by deleting all the words from “establishment” to the word “deffectiveness” and substituting the words “psychiatric facility”.

7. Section 6 of the Act is amended—

Section 6
amended

- (a) in subsection (1), by inserting after the word “district”, in the second place where it occurs, the following words “and such officer may be required to complete a course of training in the duties to be performed relating to the office of returning officer”; and
- (b) by repealing subsection (2) and substituting the following subsection:
- “ (2) Forthwith upon his appointment, a returning officer shall, with the approval of the Commission, establish an office in his electoral district, or at some convenient place outside the district and shall cause an advertisement of the address of the office, to be placed in at least one daily newspaper in circulation in Trinidad and Tobago.”.

Section 12
amended

8. Section 12 of the Act is amended—

- (a) by renumbering the section as section 12(1);
- (b) in subsection (1) as renumbered, deleting paragraph (c);
- (c) in subsection (1) as renumbered, inserting after the words “on the qualifying date”, the words “has resided in that electoral district for a period of at least two months preceding the qualifying date”; and
- (d) by inserting after subsection (1) as renumbered, the following subsection:

“ (2) The onus of proving the requirements set out in subsection (1) shall lie with the person seeking to qualify as an elector.”.

Section 13
amended

9. Section 13 of the Act is amended by inserting the following subsection:

“ (5) The onus of proving the requirements set out in subsection (1) shall lie with the person seeking to qualify as an elector.”.

Section 18
amended

10. Section 18 of the Act is amended in subsection (2), by inserting after the words “shall consist of”, the words “a computerized database and”.

Section 25
amended

11. Section 25 of the Act is amended—

- (a) in subsections (1) and (2), by inserting after the words “assistant registering officer” wherever it occurs, the words “or an authorized registering officer”; and
- (b) by inserting after subsection (2), the following subsection:

“ (3) A person whose registration has been disallowed by the registration officer, may appeal in writing to the Chief Election Officer.”.

12. Section 26 of the Act is amended—

Section 26
amended

(a) in subsections (1) and (4), by deleting the words “a registration officer” and substituting the words “the Chief Election Officer”; and

(b) in subsections (2) and (3), by deleting the words “registration officer” and substituting the words “Chief Election Officer”.

13. Section 27 of the Act is amended by—

Section 27
amended

(a) renumbering the section as section 27(1); and

(b) inserting after subsection (1) as renumbered, the following subsection:

“ (2) The registration officer shall notify in writing, the registrants who are affected by the changes made pursuant to subsection (1).”.

14. Section 29 of the Act is amended by deleting subsections (6) and (6A).

Section 29
amended

15. Section 30 of the Act is amended in subsection (1), by inserting the words “the Registration Area Offices, or the Temporary Registration Area Offices established in” after the words “conducted in”.

Section 30
amended

16. Section 31 of the Act is amended by inserting after the words “Chief Election Officer” the words “or Deputy Chief Election Officer”.

Section 31
amended

Section 33
amended

17. Section 33 of the Act is amended—

(a) in subsection (2), by deleting all the words occurring after the word “fix” and substituting the words “the date for the nomination of candidates and the date for the taking of the poll.”;

(b) in subsection (3)(a), by deleting the word “seven” and substituting the word “fourteen”; and

(c) in subsection (3)(b), by deleting the word “seven” and substituting the word “twenty-one”.

Section 40
amended

18. Section 40 of the Act is amended in subsection (1), by deleting the words “the latest time for the delivery of notices of withdrawals for an election” and substituting the words “five clear days before polling day”.

Section 45
amended

19. Section 45 of the Act is amended in subsection (2), by deleting the words “ten dollars” and substituting the words “one hundred dollars”.

Section 46
amended

20. Section 46 of the Act is amended by deleting the words “five hundred dollars” and substituting the words “five thousand dollars”.

Section 47
amended

21. Section 47 of the Act is amended in subsection (2)(b), by deleting the words “ten dollars” and substituting the words “one hundred dollars”.

Section 48
amended

22. Section 48 of the Act is amended in subsection (1), by deleting the words “five thousand dollars” and “two thousand five hundred dollars” and substituting the words “fifty thousand dollars” and “twenty-five thousand dollars” respectively.

Section 55 amended

23. Section 55 of the Act is amended in subsection (1), by deleting the words “forty dollars” and substituting the words “four hundred dollars”.

24. Section 59 of the Act is amended in subsection (1), Section 59 amended by deleting the words “twenty-five cents” and “fifteen cents” and substituting the words “two dollars and fifty-cents” and “one dollar and fifty cents” respectively.

25. Section 62 of the Act is amended as follows: Section 62 amended

(a) in subsections (1) and (2)(a), by deleting the words “one thousand five hundred dollars” and substituting the words “fifteen thousand dollars”; and

(b) in subsection (3), by deleting the words “two thousand five hundred dollars” and substituting the words “twenty-five thousand dollars”.

26. Section 63 of the Act is amended— Section 63 amended

(a) in subsections (1) and (2), by deleting the words “one thousand five hundred dollars” and substituting the words “fifteen thousand dollars”; and

(b) in subsection (3), by deleting the words “three thousand dollars” and substituting the words “thirty thousand dollars”.

27. Section 64 of the Act is amended— Section 64 amended

(a) in subsection (1)(a), by inserting after the word “Assistant” the word “Chief”;

(b) in subsection (4), by deleting the word “special” wherever it occurs; and

(c) in subsection (6), by deleting the words “seven hundred and fifty dollars” and substituting the words “seven thousand five hundred dollars”.

28. Section 66 of the Act is amended in subsections Section 66 amended (1) and (2), by deleting the words “seven hundred and fifty dollars” and substituting the words “seven thousand five hundred dollars”.

Section 67
amended

29. Section 67 of the Act is amended—

- (a) in subsections (1) and (2), by deleting the words “seven hundred and fifty dollars” and substituting the words “seven thousand five hundred dollars”;
- (b) in subsections (3) and (4), by inserting after the words “assistant registration officer” the words “or an authorized registering officer”; and
- (c) in subsections (3) and (4), by deleting the words “one thousand five hundred dollars” and substituting the words “fifteen thousand dollars”.

Section 70
amended

30. Section 70 of the Act is amended in subsection (2) by deleting the words “one thousand five hundred dollars” and “seven hundred and fifty dollars” and substituting the words “fifteen thousand dollars” and “seven thousand five hundred dollars”.

Section 71
amended

31. Section 71 of the Act is amended in subsections (1) and (3), by deleting the words “six thousand dollars” and substituting the words “sixty thousand dollars”.

Section 72
amended

32. Section 72 of the Act is amended in subsection (3), by deleting the words “seventy-five dollars” and substituting the words “seven hundred and fifty dollars”.

Section 76
amended

33. Section 76 of the Act is amended in subsection (3), by deleting the words “one thousand five hundred dollars” and substituting the words “fifteen thousand dollars”.

Section 84
amended

34. Section 84 of the Act is amended by deleting the words “eight thousand five hundred dollars” and substituting the words “eighty-five thousand dollars”.

35. Section 87 of the Act is amended in subsection (5), Section 87 amended by deleting the words “four hundred dollars” and substituting the words “four thousand dollars”.

36. Section 88 of the Act is amended in subsection (3), Section 88 amended by deleting the words “seven hundred and fifty dollars” and substituting the words “seven thousand five hundred dollars”.

37. Section 89 of the Act is amended in subsection (4), Section 89 amended by deleting the words “seven hundred and fifty dollars” and substituting the words “seven thousand five hundred dollars”.

38. Section 90 of the Act is amended in subsection (3), Section 90 amended by deleting the words “seven hundred and fifty dollars” and substituting the words “seven thousand five hundred dollars”.

39. Section 91 of the Act is amended in subsection (2), Section 91 amended by deleting the words “seven hundred and fifty dollars” and substituting the words “seven thousand five hundred dollars”.

40. Section 92 of the Act is amended— Section 92 amended

(a) in subsection (3), by deleting the words “one thousand five hundred dollars” and substituting the words “fifteen thousand dollars”; and

(b) in subsection (6), by deleting the words “four hundred dollars” and substituting the words “four thousand dollars”.

41. Section 93 of the Act is amended by deleting the words “three thousand dollars” and substituting the words “thirty thousand dollars”. Section 93 amended

Section 100
amended

42. Section 100 of the Act is amended—

(a) in subsection (1)—

- (i) in paragraph (a), by deleting the words “one thousand five hundred dollars” and substituting the words “fifteen thousand dollars”; and
- (ii) in paragraph (b), by deleting the words “three thousand dollars and substituting the words “thirty thousand dollars”; and

(b) in subsection (2), by deleting the words “three thousand dollars” and substituting the words “thirty thousand dollars”.

Section 101
amended

43. Section 101 of the Act is amended by deleting the words “one thousand five hundred dollars” and substituting the words “fifteen thousand dollars”.

Section 109
amended

44. Section 109 of the Act is amended in subsection (2)—

- (a) in paragraph (a), by deleting the words “two thousand dollars” and substituting the words “twenty thousand dollars”; and
- (b) in paragraph (b), by deleting the words “one thousand dollars” and substituting the words “ten thousand dollars”.

Section 132
amended

45. Section 132 of the Act is amended—

- (a) in subsection (2)(a), by deleting the words “four thousand dollars” and substituting the words “forty thousand dollars”; and
- (b) in subsection (2)(b), by deleting the words “two thousand dollars” and substituting the words “twenty thousand dollars”.

46. The Third Schedule repealed and a Schedule Third Schedule substituted substituted as follows:

“THIRD SCHEDULE

ELECTORAL VEHICLES

1. There shall be one electoral vehicle for every six hundred electors in each electoral district.

2. (1) There shall be one electoral vehicle for every five hundred electors in an electoral district in each of the following Regional Municipalities:

- (a) Diego Martin
- (b) San Juan/Laventille
- (c) Tunapuna/Piarco
- (d) Sangre Grande
- (e) Mayaro/Rio Claro
- (f) Couva/Tabaquite/Talparo
- (g) Penal/Debe
- (h) Princes Town
- (i) Siparia

(2) There shall be one electoral vehicle for every four hundred electors in each Tobago House of Assembly electoral district.”.

Passed in the House of Representatives this 14th day of August, 2000.

J. SAMPSON-JACENT

Clerk of the House

Passed in the Senate this 29th day of August, 2000.

D. DOLLY

Acting Clerk of the Senate