

## **THE NATIONAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENT Bill, 2024**

### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

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

This Bill seeks to designate the Steelpan as the national musical instrument of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and for related matters.

Clause 1 would provide the short title of the Bill.

Clause 2 of the Bill would provide for the interpretation of the term “Steelpan” as used in the Bill.

Clause 3 of the Bill seeks to declare the Steelpan as the national musical instrument of Trinidad and Tobago.

Clause 4 of the Bill seeks to provide for the Minister to whom responsibility for culture is assigned, to prepare and lay in Parliament, a biennial report on the recognition, status, promotion, development and impact of the Steelpan at national, regional and international levels.

# THE NATIONAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENT BILL, 2024

## ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

### *Clause*

1. Short title
2. Interpretation
3. Steelpan declared as the National Musical Instrument of Trinidad and Tobago
4. Report of the Minister

## **A BILL**

AN ACT to provide for the designation of the Steelpan as the National Musical Instrument of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and for related matters

Preamble

WHEREAS the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago is committed to developing, safeguarding and promoting culture and the arts and sustainably strengthening the cultural sector:

And whereas the Steelpan was originally created and pioneered in Trinidad and Tobago by its very own innovative and enterprising citizens, making the Steelpan a significant source of national pride and the underpinning of the Nation's musical soul and rich cultural identity:

And whereas it has long been the policy of the Government that the Steelpan be considered the national musical instrument of Trinidad and Tobago:

And whereas the Government, in striving towards achieving the status as a modern state, sees it prudent to include this policy into law:

And whereas the Steelpan's origination in Trinidad and Tobago is internationally recognized and is further globally acclaimed through a host of events, schools and festivities:

And whereas the Steelpan has continuously been highlighted on the world stage through various accolades, achievements and awards:

And whereas it is expedient that the Steelpan be officially and legally declared as the national musical instrument in recognition of its fundamental value to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and its citizenry.

Enactment

ENACTED by the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago as follows:

Short title

**1.** This Act may be cited as the National Musical Instrument Act, 2024.

Interpretation

**2.** In this Act, "Steelpan" means a definite pitch percussion musical instrument in the idiophone class with notes on a concave playing surface, with or without a skirt, divided into convex sections by channels which may contain grooves or bores, or both, with each convex section being a note which is tuned to a definite pitch.

Declaration of the Steelpan as the national instrument

**3.** The Steelpan is hereby declared the national musical instrument of Trinidad and Tobago.

Report of the Minister

**4.** The Minister to whom responsibility for culture is assigned shall cause to be prepared and laid in Parliament, every two years from the date of commencement of this Act, a report on the recognition, status, promotion, development and impact of the Steelpan at national, regional and international levels.

Passed in the House of Representatives this     day of                     , 2024.

*Clerk of the House*

I confirm the above.

*Speaker*

Passed in the Senate this                     day of                     , 2024.

*Clerk of the Senate*

I confirm the above.

*President of the Senate*