



BILL ESSENTIAL NO. 14 OF 2025-2026 1<sup>st</sup> Session, 13<sup>th</sup> Parliament

# BILL ESSENTIALS

## THE LAW REVISION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2026

Date Introduced: **March 10, 2026**

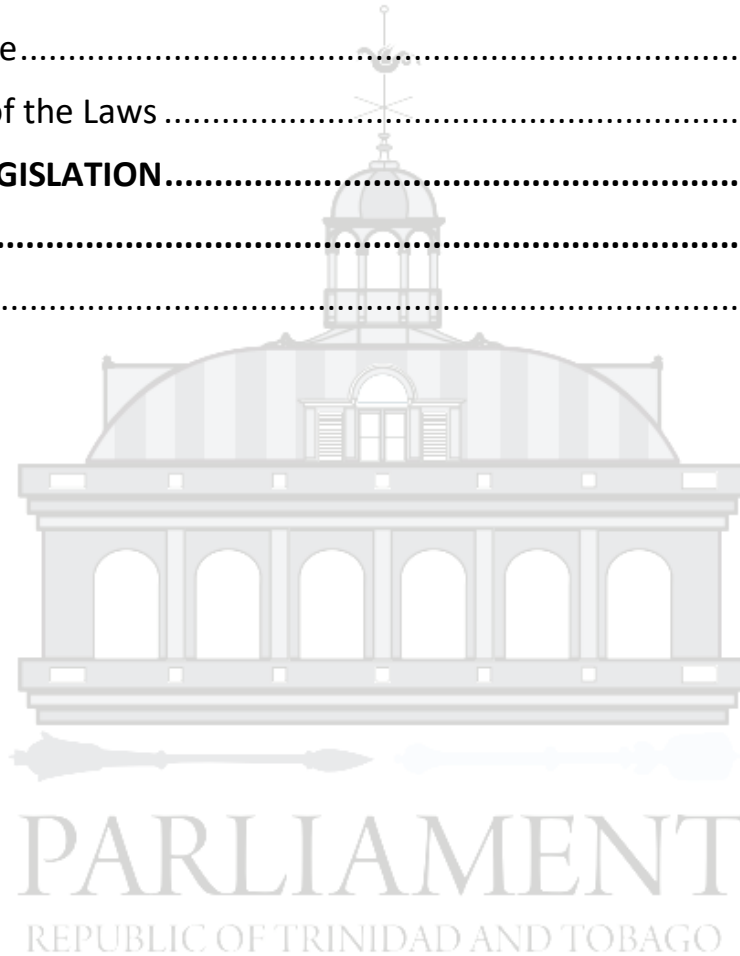
House: **Senate**

Introduced by: **Attorney General**



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1. The **Law Revision (Amendment) Bill, 2026** (hereinafter referred to as the “**Bill**”) will be introduced in the Senate by Senator the Honourable John Jeremie, SC, Attorney General, on March 10, 2026.
2. The Bill proposes to amend the **Law Revision Act, Chapter 3:03** (hereinafter referred to as the “**Act**”) to empower the Minister<sup>1</sup> to designate a website to be the official website for the publication of the electronic versions of the Laws<sup>2</sup> of Trinidad and Tobago by the Law Revision Commission<sup>3</sup> and to address other related matters.
3. Notably, the Bill seeks to affirm that the Laws published on the official website shall be subject to judicial notice<sup>4</sup>.
4. The Bill, once passed, will come into operation on such date as fixed by the President by Proclamation.

## KEY FEATURES OF THE BILL

5. **Clause 4** of the Bill amends **section 2** of the Act to include the definition “**designated website**”, which means “*the website specified in an Order under section 5A(1).*”
6. **Clause 5** of the Bill seeks to amend the Act by inserting after **section 5**, three (3) new sections, namely, **sections 5A, 5B and 5C**.

### Publications of Electronic Versions of Laws – Official website

7. **New section 5A** empowers the Minister, by Order, to designate a website as the sole official website for the publication of electronic versions of the Laws, in PDF<sup>5</sup> format or in any other format approved by the Minister.
8. **New section 5A(3)** mandates that an electronic copy or printout of an electronic version of the Laws shall be deemed official and authoritative if the following conditions are satisfied:
  -  it is accessed or downloaded from the website designated by the Minister;
  -  it is in PDF format; and


<sup>1</sup> **Section 2** of the **Law Revision Act, Chapter 3:03** defines “**Minister**” as the Minister to whom the responsibility for law revision is assigned.

<sup>2</sup> Pursuant to **section 2** of the **Law Revision Act, Chapter 3:03**, “**Laws**” means the revised edition of the written laws of Trinidad and Tobago.

<sup>3</sup> **The Law Revision Commission** refers to a body established under **section 3** of the **Law Revision Act, Chapter 3:03**, which has a mandate pursuant to **section 4** of the Act, to prepare, publish and maintain a revised edition of the written laws of Trinidad and Tobago.

<sup>4</sup> The doctrine of judicial notice provides that a court may take cognisance of facts which are generally known, without requiring them to be proved: *LexisNexis*.

<sup>5</sup> “PDF” means Portable Document Format.

 it conforms to the prescribed requirements established or made by the Minister by regulations, including:

- the process by which the electronic copy or printed version is created, recorded, transmitted, stored, authenticated, received, displayed or perceived; and
- any statement, mark or certification associated with the creation, recording, transmission, storage, authentication, reception, display or perception of the electronic copy or printed version.

### Precedence of Published Laws

9. **New section 5B** provides that, on or after the commencement of the Law Revision (Amendment) Act, 2026, in the event of any inconsistency between the Laws published under **section 5** of the Act (which provides that “*the Laws shall be published in loose-leaf form or in such other form as the Law Revision Commission may determine and shall comprise such pages as may be authorised to be included in accordance with the Act*”) and an electronic version of the Laws published pursuant to **new section 5A**, the electronic version shall prevail to the extent of such inconsistency. Accordingly, the version of the Laws published on the designated website, shall take precedence over any other published version.

### Notice of Change

10. **New section 5C** requires the Law Revision Commission to publish, on the designated website, a notice of any change or correction made to any written law previously published on the designated website.

### Judicial Notice of the Laws

11. **Clause 6** of the Bill seeks to amend **section 15** of the Act by providing that in addition to the pages<sup>6</sup> authorised for inclusion in the Laws, the electronic version of the Laws published on the designated website shall constitute the Statute Book in all Courts and for all purposes, and such laws shall be judicially noticed.

## COMPARATIVE LEGISLATION

12. In Canada, the **Legislation Revision and Consolidation Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. S-20)**<sup>7</sup> governs the publication of consolidated Acts and Regulations. The official repository of legislation is maintained by the Department of Justice and is accessible via <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca>. Notably, section 31 of the Act provides that, “*in the event of an inconsistency between a*

<sup>6</sup> Pursuant to **section 5** of the Law Revision Act, Chapter 3:03.

<sup>7</sup> [Legislation Revision and Consolidation Act \(R.S.C., 1985, c. S-20\) - Canada](#)

consolidated statute/regulation published by the Minister under this Act and the original statute/regulation or a subsequent amendment as certified by the Clerk of the Parliaments under the Publication of Statutes Act or the Statutory Instruments Act, the original statute/regulation or amendment prevails to the extent of the inconsistency". Thus, unlike the proposed Bill, the original version of the statute/regulation takes precedence over the electronic version.

13. In New Zealand, the **Legislation Act 2019**,<sup>8</sup> provides for the publication of Acts, amendments to Acts, secondary legislation and Bills, *inter alia*, introduced into Parliament. Such publications are required to be published "*as soon as practicable*". Pursuant to this Act, the website for the publication of New Zealand legislation is, <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/> which is maintained by the Parliamentary Counsel Office. Section 91 of the Act further provides that changes to legislation must be indicated on the website or, alternatively, in an appropriate location on the Act itself.

## REFERENCES

### Key Legislation

 [Law Revision Act, Chapter 3:03](#)



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**March 06, 2026**

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To determine the official status of the Bill or follow its progress click here: <https://www.ttparliament.org>

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<sup>8</sup> [Legislation Act, 2019 - New Zealand](#)