

BILL NO. 36 OF 2015

A BILL

FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE NATIONAL FIRE SERVICE ACT 1994

ENACTED by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji—

Short title and commencement

1. This Act may be cited as the National Fire Service (Budget Amendment) Act 2015 and shall come into force on 1 January 2016.

New section inserted

2. The National Fire Service Act 1994 is amended by inserting the following new provision after section 12—

“Exemption

12A. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Act, any Small and Micro Enterprise whose annual gross turnover as certified by Fiji Revenue and Customs Authority does not exceed \$500,000, shall be exempt from paying any fees or charges levied under this Act or by the Authority in relation to a business licence or liquor licence.”

November 2015

NATIONAL FIRE SERVICE (BUDGET AMENDMENT) BILL 2015

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Bill and is only intended to indicate its general effect)

1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 This Bill seeks to amend the National Fire Service Act 1994 (**‘Principal Act’**).

2.0 CLAUSES

Clause 1 Provides for the short title and the commencement provision.

Clause 2 The Principal Act is amended by inserting a new section 12A to exempt Small and Micro Enterprises whose annual gross turnover, as certified by the Fiji Revenue and Customs Authority does not exceed \$500,000, from paying any fees or charges levied under this Act or by the National Fire Authority (**‘NFA’**) in relation to a business licence or liquor licence.

This exemption is envisaged to encourage ordinary Fijians to establish and operate Small and Micro Enterprises by removing the burden of costs associated with obtaining certification from NFA to—

- (a) open and operate a small or medium sized business from a particular premises; or
- (b) obtain a liquor licence.

3.0 MINISTERIAL RESPONSIBILITY

3.1 The Act comes under the responsibility of the Minister responsible for Local Government, Housing and Environment.

A. SAYED-KHAIYUM
Attorney-General