

# BILL NO. 4 OF 2018

## A BILL

### FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE CRIMES ACT 2009

ENACTED by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji—

*Short title and commencement*

**1.**—(1) This Act may be cited as the Crimes (Amendment) Act 2018.

(2) This Act comes into force on a date appointed by the Minister by notice in the Gazette.

*Section 277 amended*

**2.** Section 277 of the Crimes Act 2009 is amended by deleting “Penalty — Imprisonment for 5 years.” and substituting the following—

“Penalty—

- (a) for paragraphs (a), (c), (d) and (e) — imprisonment for 5 years; and
- (b) for paragraph (b) — imprisonment for 5 years, or imprisonment for 10 years if the person assaults a police officer in any of the following circumstances—
  - (i) he or she bites, spits on or throws at the police officer, or otherwise applies to the police officer a bodily fluid or human or animal faeces;

- (ii) he or she is, or pretends to be, armed with a dangerous or offensive weapon or instrument; or
- (iii) he or she causes bodily harm to the police officer.”.

*Office of the Attorney-General  
Suvavou House  
Suva*

*March 2018*

## **CRIMES (AMENDMENT) BILL 2018**

### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

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

#### **1.0 BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The Crimes (Amendment) Bill 2018 (**‘Bill’**) seeks to amend the Crimes Act 2009 (**‘Act’**).

#### **2.0 CLAUSES**

- 2.1 Clause 1 of the Bill provides the short title and commencement date. If passed by Parliament, the amending legislation will come into force on a date appointed by the Minister by notice published in the Gazette.
- 2.2 Clause 2 of the Bill amends section 277 of the Act to increase the penalty for assaulting a police officer in specific circumstances from imprisonment for 5 years to imprisonment for 10 years.

#### **3.0 MINISTERIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

- 3.1 The Act comes under the responsibility of the Minister responsible for justice.

A. SAYED-KHAIYUM  
Attorney-General