

BILL NO. 21 OF 2022

A BILL

FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE MEDICAL AND DENTAL PRACTITIONER ACT
2010

ENACTED by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji—

PART 1—PRELIMINARY

Short title and commencement

1.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Medical and Dental Practitioner (Revised Budget Amendment) Act 2022.

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

Section 34 amended

2. Section 34(1)(b) of the Medical and Dental Practitioner Act 2010 is amended by deleting “or dental practice for at least 12 months” and substituting “practice for at least 2 years or dental practice for at least 12 months”.

March 2022

**MEDICAL AND DENTAL PRACTITIONER (REVISED BUDGET
AMENDMENT) BILL 2022**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Medical and Dental Practitioner Act 2010 (**‘Act’**) provides for the registration and licensing of medical and dental practitioners and students.
- 1.2 Section 34 of the Act provides *inter alia* the requirements for general registration as a medical practitioner. Currently, section 34 of the Act provides that one of the requirements that a person must satisfy the Fiji Medical Council (**‘Council’**) of in order to be registered as a medical practitioner is satisfactory experience in medical practice for at least 12 months.
- 1.3 However, in practice the Council requires persons wishing to be registered as medical practitioners to have satisfactory experience in medical practice for at least 2 years.
- 1.4 The Medical and Dental Practitioner (Revised Budget Amendment) Bill 2022 (**‘Bill’**) seeks to rectify this anomaly and to align the Act to the current practice of the Council.

2.0 CLAUSES

- 2.1 Clause 1 of the Bill provides for the short title and commencement. If passed by Parliament, the amending legislation will come into force on a date appointed by the Minister by notice in the Gazette.
- 2.2 Clause 2 of the Bill amends section 34(1)(b) of the Act to increase the requirement for satisfactory experience in medical practice from a minimum of 12 months to a minimum of 2 years.

3.0 MINISTERIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- 3.1 The Act comes under the responsibility of the Minister responsible for health and medical services.

A. SAYED-KHAIYUM
Attorney-General