



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI
STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE, LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS

CALL FOR WRITTEN SUBMISSION

The Standing Committee on Justice, Law and Human Rights has commenced its review of the *Code of Conduct Bill (Bill No. 4 of 2025)*, *Access to Information Bill (Bill No. 5 of 2025)* and *Accountability and Transparency Commission Bill (Bill No. 6 of 2025)*.

Bill No. 4 of 2025:

Section 149(a) of the 2013 Constitution states that:

“A written law shall—

- (a) establish a code of conduct which shall be applicable to the President, Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Prime Minister, Ministers, members of Parliament, holders of offices established by or continued in existence under this Constitution or under any written law, members of commissions, permanent secretaries, ambassadors or other principal representatives of the State, and persons who hold statutory appointments or governing or executive positions in statutory authorities, and to such other offices (including public offices) as may be prescribed by written law;”

A written law that establishes a code of conduct is yet to be enacted in accordance with the Constitution.

The *Code of Conduct Bill 2018* that was introduced in November 2018 lapsed on the dissolution of that Parliament.

Bill No. 5 of 2025: The *Information Act 2018* that was enacted is yet to commence. The reasons for the law not coming into operation is due to the written law required to enable the Accountability and Transparency Commission to operate not being enacted.

Access to information is a right which is protected under sections 25 and 150 of the Constitution and by Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which Fiji has ratified.

Given the weaknesses found in the Information Act 2018, it is clear that a new law is required. This Bill addresses this need and repeals entirely the Information Act 2018 to propose a new access to information law.

Bill No. 6 of 2025: The *Accountability and Transparency Commission (Commission)* was established under subsection 121(1) of the Fijian Constitution. A written law providing for the Commission's authority, functions, responsibilities, jurisdiction and powers is yet to be enacted. This Bill provides for these matters.

In that regard, the Committee cordially invites any interested person or institution wishing to provide their views and comments on the Bill, to submit their contributions through the secretariat no later than 31 March 2025.

For any query, please contact the Committee Secretariat through e-mail address: jackson.cakacaka@legislature.gov.fj and alumita.cabealawa@legislature.gov.fj and mobile: 9908 5959 / 934 7570

A copy of the Bill can be found on the Fiji Parliament website, via the link:
[Bills - Parliament of the Republic of Fiji](#)

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(CHAIRPERSON)