

BILL NO. 19 OF 2025

A BILL

FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE FIJIAN COMPETITION AND CONSUMER COMMISSION ACT 2010

ENACTED by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji—

Short title and commencement

1.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission (Budget Amendment) Act 2025.

(2) This Act comes into force on 1 August 2025.

(3) In this Act, the Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission Act 2010 is referred to as the “Principal Act”.

Section 23 amended

2. Section 23 of the Principal Act is amended by deleting subsection (2).

Section 23A amended

3. Section 23A of the Principal Act is amended by deleting subsection (1) and substituting the following—

“(1) Subject to section 23, the Commission may operate on the basis that as far as is reasonably practicable, all costs of the Commission are met by fees charged by the Commission in respect of the performance of its functions.”.

Office of the Attorney-General
Suvavou House
Suva

June 2025

FIJIAN COMPETITION AND CONSUMER COMMISSION (BUDGET AMENDMENT) BILL 2025

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 Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission Act 2010 (**‘Act’**) *inter alia* provides for the protection of the interests of the consumer, promoting effective and efficient development of industry, trade or commerce and ensuring equitable returns for businesses with fair and reasonable prices charged to consumers. To this end, the Act establishes the Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission (**‘Commission’**) and also makes provisions for access agreements, dispute settlement, price control, consumer protection against unfair practices and so forth.
- 1.2 Therefore, the Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission (Budget Amendment) Bill 2025 (**‘Bill’**) seeks to amend the Act to provide for the 2025-2026 budgetary policy changes.
- 1.3 The deletion of section 23(2) of the Act will allow for a governance model which will encourage the financial independence of the Commission.
- 1.4 Furthermore, the amendment to section 23A(1) of the Act is to provide consistency with the objective of financial independence by removing specific mention of operating costs and instead opening up the use of fees charged by the Commission for all its functions and activities without limitation to operating costs.

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 1 August 2025.

- 2.2 Clause 2 of the Bill amends section 23 of the Act by deleting subsection (2) to remove the provision for payment of fees, salaries, wages, allowances, expenses and other expenditure of the Commission out of money appropriated by Parliament.
- 2.3 Clause 3 of the Bill amends section 23A of the Act by deleting subsection (1) and substituting a new provision which makes reference to all costs of the Commission instead of just its operating costs.

3.0 MINISTERIAL RESPONSIBILITY

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

S. D. TURAGA
Acting Attorney-General