

# **BILL NO. 43 OF 2025**

## **A BILL**

FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1935

ENACTED by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji—

*Short title and commencement*

**1.—**(1) This Act may be cited as the Public Health (Amendment) Act 2025.

(2) This Act comes into force on 12 December 2025.

*Section 19 amended*

**2.** The Public Health Act 1935 is amended by deleting section 19 and substituting the following new section—

*“Requirement for land development application*

**19.** An application to the local authority to develop land must—

(a) comply with section 7 of the Town Planning Act 1946; and

(b) be accompanied with a site plan showing the access and the course of the proposed drainage on the land.”.

December 2025

## **PUBLIC HEALTH (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 Public Health (Amendment) Bill 2025 (**‘Bill’**) seeks to amend the Public Health Act 1935 (**‘Act’**) to provide for updated policy changes and for compliance with the digital building permit approval system (**‘BPAS’**).
- 1.2 The BPAS is part of the project businessNOW FIJI that seeks to digitise the building permit process, reduce delays, improve transparency, and significantly enhance service delivery. To fully realise these benefits, it is critical to modernise the legal framework. A review and realignment of responsibilities is required to support digitalisation, streamline processes, and strengthen Fiji’s position as the business and investment hub of the Pacific.

#### **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 12 December 2025.
- 2.2 Clause 2 of the Bill amends section 19 of the Act by mandating that any land development application must simultaneously satisfy the requirements of section 7 of the Town Planning Act 1946 and include a site plan upon submission.

#### **3.0 MINISTERIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

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

S. D. TURAGA  
Acting Attorney-General