

BILL NO. 1 OF 2026

A BILL

FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE INCOME TAX ACT 2015

ENACTED by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji—

Short title and commencement

1.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Income Tax (Amendment) Act 2026.

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

Section 28 amended

2. Section 28 of the Income Tax Act 2015 is amended by—

- (a) in subsection (1) after “catastrophe”, inserting “, or by termite infestation declared as a biosecurity emergency”; and
- (b) in subsection (4) after “catastrophe”, inserting “, or by termite infestation declared as a biosecurity emergency,”.

March 2026

INCOME TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL 2026

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Section 28 of the Income Tax Act 2015 ('Act') currently provides a tax deduction for deposits into a reserve fund account with a financial institution for losses to buildings caused by windstorm, tidal wave, landslide or like catastrophe.
- 1.2 However in most recent years, there has been extensive damage to both residential and commercial buildings in the Western Division caused by termite infestation, specifically the Asian Subterranean Termites as declared by the Biosecurity Authority of Fiji.
- 1.3 The Income Tax (Amendment) Bill 2026 ('Bill') therefore seeks to include termite infestation that has been declared as a biosecurity emergency to allow for a tax deduction where there is monetary support for the rebuilding or renovation of damaged buildings as a result of termite infestation.

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 28 of the Act to expand the scope of the natural disaster reserve to include termite infestation that is declared a biosecurity emergency.

3.0 MINISTERIAL RESPONSIBILITY

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

S. D. TURAGA
Acting Attorney-General