

BILL NO. 30 OF 2026

A BILL

FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE ELECTORAL (REGISTRATION OF VOTERS)
ACT 2012

ENACTED by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji—

Short title and commencement

1.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Electoral (Registration of Voters) (Amendment) Act 2026.

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

(3) In this Act, the Electoral (Registration of Voters) Act 2012 is referred to as the “Principal Act”.

Section 2 amended

2. Section 2 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting the following new definitions—

““corrupt electoral practice” has the meaning given to it under section 2 of the Electoral Act 2014;”;

““Corrupt Electoral Practices List” means the Corrupt Electoral Practices List under section 19G;”;

““illegal electoral practice” has the meaning given to it under section 135A(2) of the Electoral Act 2014;”.

Section 3 amended

3. Section 3(2)(b) of the Principal Act is amended by deleting “have a mental disorder” and substituting “be of unsound mind”.

Section 4 amended

4. Section 4(4) of the Principal Act is amended by deleting “shall be guilty of an offence and liable upon conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or a term of imprisonment not exceeding 5 years, or both” and substituting “commits an offence which is an illegal electoral practice”.

Section 12 amended

5. Section 12(1) of the Principal Act is amended by—

(a) in paragraph (c)(iii), deleting “have a mental disorder” and substituting “be of unsound mind”; and

(b) deleting paragraph (f) and substituting the following—

“(f) remove the name of any person who has been entered on the Corrupt Electoral Practices List or has otherwise been disqualified from registration as a voter under a law relating to electoral offences;”.

Section 19C amended

6. Section 19C(2) of the Principal Act is amended by deleting “and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 5 years” and substituting “which is an illegal electoral practice”.

Section 19F amended

7. Section 19F of the Principal Act is amended by deleting “and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$50,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 10 years or both” and substituting “which is an illegal electoral practice”.

Section 19G inserted

8. The Principal Act is amended after section 19F by inserting the following new section—

“Corrupt Electoral Practices List

19G.—(1) Where the Supervisor is satisfied that a person who is registered or who applies for registration as a voter has, within the immediate preceding period of 4 years—

(a) been convicted of a corrupt electoral practice under any electoral law or a category A offence under the Electoral (Local Government Elections) Regulations 2026; or

(b) been reported by the Court of Disputed Returns on the trial of an election petition as guilty of a corrupt electoral practice under any electoral law or a category A offence under the Electoral (Local Government Elections) Regulations 2026,

the Supervisor must enter the name, voter number, residence, and description of that person if necessary, and particulars of the conviction or report, on the Corrupt Electoral Practices List.

(2) The Supervisor must remove the name of a person from the Corrupt Electoral Practices List at the expiration of 4 years from the date of the conviction or report under subsection (1).”.

August 2026

ELECTORAL (REGISTRATION OF VOTERS) (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 The Electoral (Registration of Voters) (Amendment) Bill 2026 (**‘Bill’**) seeks to amend the Electoral (Registration of Voters) Act 2012 (**‘Act’**) to align to amendments proposed under the Electoral (Amendment) Bill 2026.

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 or dates appointed by the Minister by notice in the Gazette.
- 2.2 Clause 2 of the Bill amends section 2 of the Act to introduce the definition of new key terms as a result of amendments made to the Electoral Act 2014 and which consequentially affect offence provisions in the Act.
- 2.3 Clause 3 of the Bill amends section 3 of the Act to be consistent with terminology used in the Constitution of the Republic of Fiji.
- 2.4 Clause 4 of the Bill amends section 4 of the Act to categorise the offence under section 4(4) as an illegal electoral practice.
- 2.5 Clause 5 of the Bill amends section 12 of the Act to include the removal of persons who have been listed under the Corrupt Electoral Practices List or those that have been disqualified from being registered as a voter, from the National Register of Voters.
- 2.6 Clause 6 of the Bill amends section 19C of the Act to categorise the offence under section 19C(2) as an illegal electoral practice.
- 2.7 Clause 7 of the Bill amends section 19F of the Act to categorise the offence under section 19F as an illegal electoral practice.

- 2.8 Clause 8 of the Bill amends the Act by inserting a new section 19G to provide for the Corrupt Electoral Practices List which names all persons convicted of a corrupt electoral practice or have been reported by the Court of Disputed Returns as guilty of a corrupt electoral practice under an electoral law or a category A offence under the Electoral (Local Government Elections) Regulations 2026. A name entered must be removed after 4 years from the date of conviction or report made, as applicable.

3.0 MINISTERIAL RESPONSIBILITY

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

S. D. TURAGA
Acting Attorney-General