

CHAPTER 415

THE STATUTES ACT

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STATUTES

(17th April, 1967.)

21/1967.
20/1981.
18/1989.

1. This Act may be cited as the Statutes Act.

Short title.

2. This Act and all Statutes of Antigua and Barbuda passed after the commencement of this Act shall be styled Acts.

Style of statutes.

Words of enactment.

3. (1) In the Bill for this Act and in every other Bill submitted to the Governor-General for assent, other than a Bill specified in subsection (2), (3) or (4) of this section, the words of enactment shall be as follows:—

"ENACTED by the Parliament of Antigua and Barbuda as follows—"

(2) In every Bill submitted to the Governor-General for assent under section 47 of the Constitution the words of enactment shall be as follows:—

"ENACTED by the Parliament of Antigua and Barbuda (or by Her Majesty and the House of Representatives of Antigua and Barbuda, as the case may be) in accordance with the provisions of section 47 of the Constitution as follows—"

(3) In every Bill presented or submitted to the Governor-General for assent under section 54 or 55 of the Constitution, the words of enactment shall be as follows:—

"ENACTED by Her Majesty and the House of Representatives of Antigua and Barbuda in accordance with the provisions of section 54 (or section 55 as the case may be) of the Constitution as follows—"

(4) In every Bill submitted to the Governor-General for assent under section 123 of the Constitution, the words of enactment shall be as follows:—

"ENACTED by the Parliament of Antigua and Barbuda with the consent of the Barbuda Council in accordance with the provisions of section 123 of the Constitution as follows—"

(5) Any alteration of the words of enactment of a Bill made in pursuance of the provisions of subsection (2), (3) or (4) of this section shall not be deemed to be an amendment of the Bill.

(6) The words of enactment shall follow the preamble, if any, and the various clauses within the purview or body of the statute shall follow in a concise and enunciative form.

4. The Clerk to the House of Representatives shall inscribe on every statute immediately after the long title thereof, the day, month and year, when the statute comes into operation or if the statute provides that it is to come into force or operation on a date to be fixed by proclamation order or notice or that it is not to come into force or operation until a day or date to be so fixed, he shall alternatively inscribe the following words – "On proclamation", "By Order" or "By Notice" as the case may be.

**Inscription by
Clerk on Statutes.**

5. (1) Every statute that is not expressed to come into force or operation on a particular day shall come into operation on the day when that statute is published in the *Gazette*.

**Coming into force
of statutes.**

(2) When a statute provides that it is to come into force or operation on a day or date to be fixed by proclamation order or notice or that it is not to come into force or operation until a day or date to be so fixed, any such proclamation order or notice—

(a) may apply to the whole or to any part or parts or portion or portions or section or sections of the statute; and

(b) may be issued at different times so as to apply to any part or parts or portion or portions or section or sections of the statute.

6. (1) Subject to the provisions of sections 54 and 55 of the Constitution, a Bill shall not be presented to the Governor-General for assent unless it has been approved by both Houses of Parliament either without amendment or with such amendments only as are agreed to by both Houses; and, in addition, where a Bill is presented to the Governor-General for assent under section 123 of the Constitution, unless the Barbuda Council has given its consent to the Bill pursuant to that section.

**Resentling of
authorisation**

(2) When the Governor-General assents to any Bill, his assent shall be recorded in the usual form on an authenticated manuscript or printed copy or on an authenticated copy partly in print and partly in manuscript.

(3) All Bills passed by Parliament shall be authenticated by the signature of the Speaker and by the signature of

the Clerk to the House of Representatives and if under the provisions of the Constitution the Bill has been approved by the Senate as mentioned in subsection (1) of this section by the signatures of the President of the Senate and the Clerk to the Senate.

Printing and distribution.

7. (1) The Statutes shall, immediately after they are passed, be printed in fair and legible type, published in the *Gazette* and distributed by the Government Printer.

(2) The Clerk to the House of Representatives shall furnish the Government Printer with a certified copy of every statute of Parliament as soon as it has received the Royal Assent.

(3) Every copy of a statute printed by the Government Printer shall be evidence of that statute and its contents and every copy purporting to be printed by the Government Printer shall be deemed to be so printed unless the contrary is shown.

Acts to be printed.

8. (1) As soon after the close of each year as is practicable, the Acts shall be printed and bound together in one volume unless it is impracticable or inconvenient so to do, and in such case the Clerk to the House of Representatives may authorise the parts to be bound in two or more volumes.

(2) The Government Printer shall, as soon after the close of each year as is practicable, deliver or send by post or otherwise, in the most economical manner, the proper number of copies of the volume or volumes, to members of Parliament, to such public departments, administrative bodies and officers and other persons in Antigua and Barbuda as the Minister may, from time to time, direct.

Records of statutes.

9. This Act and all statutes passed after the commencement of this Act shall be of record in the custody of the Clerk to the House of Representatives.

Clerk to certify copies.

10. The Clerk to the House of Representatives shall certify copies of all Acts required to be produced before courts of justice either within or beyond the limits of Antigua and Barbuda, and in any other case in which the Clerk to the House of Representatives deems it expedient.

11. All copies of the Acts certified by the Clerk to the House of Representatives pursuant to section 10 shall be held to be duplicate originals and also to be evidence of those Acts and of their contents as if printed by authority.

Certified copies to be held to be duplicate originals.

12. (1) At the close of each year is shall be the duty of the Clerk to the House of Representatives to obtain from the Government Printer bound copies of statutes passed in such year by Parliament and he shall deliver one copy of the said Acts, duly certified, to the Registrar of the Supreme Court to be recorded and enrolled in the office of the said Registrar.

Copies for Registrar, Judges etc.

(2) The Clerk to the House of Representatives shall also furnish one such volume to each judge assigned to Antigua and Barbuda and to the Attorney-General to be kept in the Court of such judge and for the use of the Attorney-General respectively.

13. The Clerk to the House of Representatives shall insert at the foot of every copy of an Act required to be certified for every purpose, a written certificate duly signed and authenticated by him, to the effect that such copy is a true copy of the Act.

Certificate to be inserted at the foot of every copy of Acts to be certified.

14. Any person desiring to obtain a Bill of a private or personal character shall pay the charges for printing such Bill.

Payment to be made to Printer.

15. All expenditure incurred in printing, binding and distributing the statutes shall be defrayed from an appropriation voted by Parliament for that purpose.

Cost of printing, binding and distributing statutes.