

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (AMENDMENT) ACT 2021

Act 21 of 2021



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#### AN ACT TO AMEND THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ACT

I assent, TUPOU VI, 28<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

**BE IT ENACTED** by the King and Legislative Assembly of Tonga in the Legislature of the Kingdom as follows:

### 1 Short Title and Interpretation

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Act 2021.
- (2) In this Act, the Legislative Assembly Act, as amended, shall be referred to as "the Principal Act".

#### 2 Section 7 amended

The Principal Act is amended by deleting section 7 and replacing it with the following –

#### "7 Absence

(1) If any representative shall be absent from the Legislative Assembly for more than 3 consecutive calendar months, or for a period of 2 weeks during the session of the Legislative Assembly without the leave of the Speaker, his seat in the Legislative

- Assembly shall thereupon become vacant and his successor shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of section 6.
- (2) Any Member having been unseated in accordance with section 7(1) of this Act shall not be nominated as a candidate at the election of his successor.
- (3) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the Legislative Assembly upon the recommendation of the Speaker may permit absence of a member for a further period of up to 3 consecutive calendar months, but the Legislative Assembly may not permit the member to be absent for any period exceeding 6 consecutive months.".

Passed by the Legislative Assembly this **26**<sup>th</sup> day of **August** 2021.