

BELIZE:

**REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS (AMENDMENT)
ACT, 2018**

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

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No. 13 of 2018

I assent,

(SIR COLVILLE N. YOUNG)

Governor-General

8th October, 2018

AN ACT to amend the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, Chapter 157 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2011; to make better provisions for the administration of the office of registration of births and deaths; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(Gazetted 13th October, 2018)

BE IT ENACTED, by and with the advice and consent of the House of Representatives and Senate of Belize and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as the

Short title.

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS
(AMENDMENT) ACT, 2018

CAP. 157.
29 of 2013.

and shall be read and construed as one with the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, which, as amended, is hereinafter referred to as the principal Act.

Substitution of
term.

2. The principal Act is amended by deleting the term “Registrar General” wherever it appears and substituting the term “Solicitor General”.

Amendment of
section 2.

3. Section 2 of the principal Act is amended as follows –

(a) by deleting the term “Deputy Registrar General” and its corresponding definition; and

(b) by inserting in the appropriate alphabetical sequence, the following new definition –

““Deputy Solicitor General” means the person appointed to perform the duties of the Solicitor General during his absence from office;”.

Repeal and
replacement of
section 4.

4. Section 4 of the principal Act is repealed and the following is substituted –

“Establishment
of Vital
Statistics Unit
and registries.

4. (1) There is established a registry for the registration of births, deaths and other vital statistics, to be known as the Vital Statistics Unit.

(2) There is established in every community, regional and referral hospital, an office of the Vital Statistics Unit which shall be a registry within the meaning of this Act.”

Repeal and
replacement of
section 5.

5. Section 5 of the principal Act is repealed and the following is substituted –

“Deputy
Registrars.

5. (1) The Deputy Solicitor General and such other officers working within the Ministry

as are authorised by the Solicitor General in writing, shall be ex officio deputy registrars of births and deaths for Belize.

(2) Every officer of the Vital Statistics Unit in a community, regional or referral hospital shall be a deputy registrar of births and deaths.”

6. (1) A reference in any other enactment to the “Registrar General” or “Deputy Registrar General” or to the “General Registry” exercising a function in relation to the registration of births and deaths is, to the extent possible, to be read respectively, as a reference to the Solicitor General as introduced by this Act, or to the Deputy Solicitor General or to the Ministry so responsible, respectively.

Referential
amendments.

(2) Enactments referred to in this section include, but are not limited to those specified in the Schedule to this Act.

Schedule.

7. This Act comes into force on a date appointed by the Minister by Order published in the *Gazette*.

Commencement.

SCHEDULE
(Section 6)

Title of Enactment	Amended Sections
Coroners Act, CAP. 126	Section 22 (6)
Families and Children Act, CAP. 173	Sections 32 (interpretation), 39(2) and 145
International Business Companies Act, CAP. 270	Section 92(4)
Representation of the People Act, CAP 9.	Section 9(2)(a), 24(2)