

**BELIZE:**

**PUBLIC HEALTH (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2021**

**ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES**

1. Short title.
2. Amendment of section 67.
3. Amendment of section 68.
4. Amendment of section 82.
5. Insertion of section 82A.
6. Amendment of section 85.

**BELIZE:****BILL****for**

**AN ACT** to amend the Public Health Act, Chapter 40 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2011; to expand the definition of infectious disease and dangerous infectious disease; to increase the penalty for the breach of regulations; to provide for violation tickets; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(Gazetted ....., 2021)

**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:

Short title.

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

**PUBLIC HEALTH (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2021,**

CAP. 40.

and shall be read and construed as one with the Public Health Act, which is hereinafter referred to as the principal Act.

Amendment of section 67.

**2.** The principal Act is amended in section 67(1) by inserting the expression “, COVID-19” immediately after the words “yellow fever”.

Amendment of section 68.

**3.** The principal Act is amended in section 68 by inserting the expression “, COVID-19” immediately after the words “yellow fever”.

Amendment of section 82.

**4.** The principal Act is amended in section 82 by deleting the words “two hundred dollars” and substituting the words “five thousand dollars”.

Insertion of section 82A.

**5.** The principal Act is amended by inserting the following section immediately after section 82–

“Minister to make regulations for infectious diseases.

**82A.**–(1) The Minister may make regulations for preventing, controlling, containing and suppressing the threat, outbreak or spread of an infectious disease.

(2) Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, regulations made under sub-section (1) may provide for—

- (a) the issue of violation tickets for the breach or contravention of any regulation;
- (b) the form of the violation ticket;
- (c) the fine to be stated on the violation ticket, which shall not exceed one thousand dollars;
- (d) persons by whom the violation ticket may be issued;
- (e) the places where the fine stated on the violation ticket may be paid;
- (f) the time for paying such fines;
- (g) the penalty for failure to pay the fine within the time specified; and
- (h) the procedure for requesting a court hearing by a person who has been issued with the violation ticket.

(3) Notwithstanding sub-section (2), regulations made under this section may provide that any breach or contravention of any such regulation may be punishable on summary conviction by a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars or a term of imprisonment not exceeding two years.”.

**6.** The principal Act is amended in section 85 by deleting the words “one hundred dollars” and substituting the words “five thousand dollars”.

Amendment of  
section 85.