# **BELIZE:**

# SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2021

# **ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES**

- 1. Short title.
- 2. Insertion of section 21A.

## **BELIZE:**

## BILL

### for

**AN ACT** to amend the Supreme Court of Judicature Act Chapter 91 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2011; to allow for civil proceedings to be continued and determined by another judge if the judge before whom the proceedings took place has demitted office, is removed from office, retires from office or dies; 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

#### SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2021,

CAP. 91. 21 of 2018. 11 of 2020. and shall be read and construed as one with the Supreme Court of Judicature Act, which, as amended, is hereinafter referred to as the principal Act.

Insertion of section 21A.
2. The principal Act is amended by inserting the following new section immediately after section 21–

"Jurisdiction to continue civil proceedings. **21A.** Notwithstanding section 21, civil proceedings brought before a single judge may be continued and determined by another judge if-

- (a) the judge before whom the proceedings took place is, for any reason, unable to continue the hearing or trial of any matter prior to the determination or disposition of the matter; and
- (b) the parties to the civil proceeding consent to the proceedings being continued and determined by another judge.".