

BELIZE:

NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2023

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

1. Short title.
2. Amendment of section 3A.
3. Insertion of new section 24A.
4. Amendment of section 25.
5. Insertion of new section 26A.

BILL

For

AN ACT to amend the Non-Profit Organisations Act, (Act No. 14 of 2023); to provide for the Registrar to issue Certificates of Good Standing; to provide for the fees to be prescribed by regulations; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(Gazetted, 2023)

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.

**NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS (AMENDMENT) ACT,
2023,**

and shall be read and construed as one with the Non-Profit Organisations Act, which is hereinafter referred to as the principal Act.

Act No. 14 of 2023.

2. The principal Act is amended by repealing section 3A(1)(b).

Amendment of section 3A.

3. The principal Act is amended by inserting after section 24, the following new section—

Insertion of new section 24A.

“Certificate of Good Standing.

24A. The Registrar shall, upon request by any person, issue a certificate of good standing in the approved form certifying that a Non-Profit Organisation registered under this Act is of good standing, if the Registrar is satisfied that the Non-Profit Organisation—

(a) is in possession of a Certificate of Registration issued under this Act; and

(b) has paid all fees due and payable.”.

4. The principal Act is amended in section 25 by—

Amendment of section 25.

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- (a) renumbering the section 25 as 25(1); and
- (b) inserting after 25(1) as renumbered, the following sub-section-
- “(2) Without limiting sub-section (1), regulations may prescribe the fees which may be payable for-
- (a) registration;
- (b) filing of documents;
- (c) issuance of certificates; or
- (d) any other fee necessary for the performance of the functions and powers of the Registrar.”.

5. The principal Act is amended by inserting after section 26, the following new section-

Insertion of new section 26A.

“Electronic signatures and transactions.

26A.-(1) The Registrar may accept any document signed, notarised, apostilled or sealed electronically and such documents shall have the same force and effect as if the signature or seal is affixed to a paper copy of the document.

Act No. 25 of 2021.

(2) The Electronic Transactions Act shall apply to this Act and Regulations made hereunder, except where specified otherwise by Regulations made hereunder.”.