

BELIZE:

BELIZE BUILDING (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2025

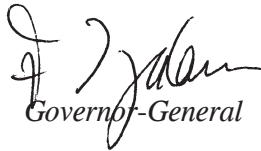
ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

1. Short title.
2. Amendment of section 2.
3. Amendment of section 3.
4. Amendment of section 13.
5. Amendment of section 18.
6. Amendment of section 25.
7. Insertion of new section 25A.
8. Consequential amendment.



No. 12 of 2025

I assent,


Governor-General

6th June, 2025.

AN ACT to amend the Belize Building Act, Chapter 131 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020; to make better provisions for regulating the construction, demolition and movement of buildings; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(Gazetted 7th June, 2025)

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.

BELIZE BUILDING (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2025,

CAP. 131 and shall be read and construed as one with the Belize Building Act, which is hereinafter referred to as the principal Act.

Amendment of section 2.

2. The principal Act is amended in section 2 by inserting the following term and its corresponding definition in its proper alphabetical sequence–

““building regulations” means any regulations made under this Act;”.

Amendment of section 3.

3. The principal Act is amended in section 3–

(a) by repealing sub-section (1) and replacing with the following–

“(1) The provisions of this Act shall apply to all buildings in Belize.”; and

(b) by repealing sub-section (2) and replacing with the following–

“(2) The scope of the application of this Act shall be prescribed in regulations made pursuant to section 37(2)(k).”.

Amendment of section 13.

4. The principal Act is amended in section 13–

(a) in sub-section (1), by inserting after the words “proposes to”, the word “ move,”;

(b) in sub-section (1B), by inserting the words “proposes to”, the word “ move,”; and

(c) by repealing sub-section (2) and replacing with the following–

(2) Every application for a permit to build or move a building shall be made in writing

or electronically and shall be accompanied by such documents, drawings, descriptions, calculations and specifications as–

- (a) prescribed in building regulations or any other regulations made under this Act,
- (b) the Building Unit or Director may require on a prescribed form.

5. The principal Act is amended in section 18(1) by inserting after the words “satisfied that”, the words “, the applicant has satisfied the requirements of the building regulations,”.

Amendment of section 18.

6. The principal Act is amended in section 25–

Amendment of section 25.

- (a) in sub-section (2), by deleting the word “permit” and substituting the word “certificate”; and

- (b) by inserting after sub-section (2), the following new sub-section–

“(3) A certificate of occupancy shall contain such information as prescribed in building regulations.”.

7. The principal Act is amended by inserting after section 25, the following new section–

Insertion of new section 25A.

“Temporary
Occupancy
Certificate.

25A. Notwithstanding section 25, the Director or a Technical Manager as the case may be, may issue a temporary occupancy certificate in accordance with building regulations.”.

8. The Disaster Preparedness and Response Act is amended in section 10 by inserting after sub-section (1), the following new sub-section–

Consequential amendment.
CAP. 145.

“(1A) For the purposes of sub-section (1), a premise shall only be suitable for use as a shelter if that premise complies with regulations made under the Belize Building Act.”.