

BELIZE:

TRADE LICENSING (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) BILL, 2025

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

1. Short title.
2. Amendment of section 19
3. Repeal of section 51.
4. Amendment of Schedule I.

BILL

For

AN ACT to amend the Trade Licensing Act, Act No. 19 of 2024; to provide for the determination of annual licence fees for trades in towns and villages; to make transitional provisions respecting existing trades; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(Gazetted, 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:

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the

TRADE LICENSING (AMENDMENT) (NO.3) ACT, 2025,

and shall be read and construed as one with the Trade Licensing Act, which, as amended, is hereinafter referred to as the principal Act.

2. The principal Act is amended by repealing section 19 and replacing it with the following–

“Determination of annual licence fee.

19.–(1) The annual licence fee payable in respect of the carrying on of a trade in a town shall be determined in accordance with the trade matrix declared under section 20(2).

(2) The annual licence fee payable in respect of carrying on of a trade in a village shall be the flat fee declared in accordance with section 20(4).

(3) The annual licence fee payable under sub-section (1) shall not exceed a rate of twenty-five percent of the productive footprint.

Act No. 19 of 2024.
Act No. 5 of 2025.
Act No. 19 of 2025

Repeal and replacement of section 19.

(4) The productive footprint for an agricultural trade shall be the area used for processing the agricultural product.

(5) Notwithstanding sub-section (1) and (3), for a period of three years from the commencement of this section., the annual licence fee—

(a) in the case of a trade existing before the commencement of this section, shall not be greater or less than ten percent of the annual licence fee levied on that trade before the commencement of this section; and

(b) in the case of a trade established after the commencement of this section, shall not be greater or less than ten percent of the annual licence fee levied on similar trades existing before the commencement of this section.”.

3. The principal Act is amended by repealing section 51.

Repeal of section 51.

4. The principal Act is amended in Schedule I—

Amendment of Schedule I.

(a) under the heading “Cayo Trade Licensing Board - Eastern Division”, deleting the words “Unitedville Village” and substituting the words “Blackman eddy Village”; and

(b) under the heading “Cayo Trade Licensing Board - Central Division”, deleting the words “Blackman Eddy Village” and substituting the words “Unitedville Village”.