

**ACT NO. 10 OF 2021**

I assent.

J. K. KONROTE

President

[7 June 2021]

## **AN ACT**

TO AMEND THE ELECTORAL (REGISTRATION OF VOTERS) ACT 2012

ENACTED by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji—

*Short title and commencement*

**1.**—(1) This Act may be cited as the Electoral (Registration of Voters) (Amendment) Act 2021.

(2) This Act comes into force on a date or dates appointed by the Minister by notice in the Gazette.

(3) In this Act, the Electoral (Registration of Voters) Act 2012 is referred to as the “Principal Act”.

*Section 2 amended*

**2.** Section 2 of the Principal Act is amended by—

(a) deleting the definition of “election” and substituting the following—

““election” has the meaning given in section 2 of the Electoral Act 2014;”;

(b) after the definition of “election”, inserting the following new definition—

““Fijian Elections Office” has the meaning given in section 2 of the Electoral Act 2014;”;

- (c) deleting the definition of “polling day” and substituting the following—  
 ““polling day” has the meaning given in section 2 of the Electoral Act 2014;”;
- (d) after the definition of “polling day”, inserting the following new definition—  
 ““publish” means to produce and make available to the public, including electronically;”;
- (e) after the definition of “voter”, inserting the following new definition—  
 ““voter card” means an identification card assigned to a person on the registration of the person as a voter, containing the full name, photograph, date of birth, residential address, voter number, polling venue and any other information as required by the Supervisor;”.

*Section 4 amended***3.** Section 4 of the Principal Act is amended by—

- (a) after subsection (2), inserting the following new subsection—  
 “(2A) The application for registration must be made in the form approved by the Electoral Commission.”; and
- (b) after subsection (5), inserting the following new subsections—  
 “(6) At the time of registration, the applicant must select a polling venue closest to their residence.  
 (7) If the applicant is unable to select a polling venue closest to their residence, the Supervisor may assign a polling venue closest to the applicant’s residence.”.

*Section 9 amended***4.** Section 9 of the Principal Act is amended by—

- (a) after “full name,”, inserting “closest polling venue,”; and
- (b) deleting “form of identification, thumbprints,”.

*Section 10 amended***5.** Section 10 of the Principal Act is amended after subsection (2) by inserting the following new subsections—

- “(3) The Supervisor must issue every person entered in the National Register of Voters with a voter card.
- (4) All voter cards are the property of the Fijian Elections Office.
- (5) If a person finds another person’s voter card, the first-mentioned person must, as soon as practicable, return the voter card to the Fijian Elections Office.”.

*Section 11A inserted*

**6.** The Principal Act is amended after section 11 by inserting the following new section—

*“Publication of the National Register of Voters*

11A.—(1) The Supervisor must publish the National Register of Voters in the form and manner approved by the Electoral Commission.

(2) Any political party may, on the payment of such fee as approved by the Supervisor, obtain a copy of the National Register of Voters.”.

*Section 12 amended*

**7.** Section 12(1) of the Principal Act is amended by—

(a) in paragraph (h), deleting “and”;

(b) in paragraph (i), deleting “.” and substituting “; and”;

(c) after paragraph (i), inserting the following new paragraph—

“(j) remove any registration obtained by fraudulent means or by providing incorrect details required by the Supervisor to successfully register an eligible voter.”.

*Section 13 inserted*

**8.** The Principal Act is amended after section 12 by inserting the following new section—

*“Removal from the National Register of Voters*

13.—(1) If a person’s name and other information are to be removed from the National Register of Voters, the Supervisor must first notify the person by sending a notice of the proposed removal to the person’s last known residential address.

(2) The person must, within 14 days from the date the notice is sent, provide a written response to the Supervisor, which must set out the reasons as to why the person’s name and other information are to remain on the National Register of Voters.

(3) If the Supervisor is dissatisfied with the reasons provided under subsection (2) or if the person fails to provide a written response, the Supervisor may remove the person’s name and other information from the National Register of Voters.

(4) The Supervisor must, for the purpose of notifying persons whose names and other information have been removed from the National Register of Voters, publish a notice listing the names of all such persons annually.

(5) A notice published under subsection (4) must also list the voter number of each person whose name has been removed from the National Register of Voters.”.