REGISTRATION OF SEX OFFENDERS ACT 2021 (ACT No. 39 of 2021)

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ACT NO. 39 OF 2021



J. K. KONROTE President

[22 September 2021]

AN ACT

TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGISTER OF SEX OFFENDERS, THE REGISTRATION AND REPORTING OBLIGATIONS OF SEX OFFENDERS AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

ENACTED by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji—

PART 1—PRELIMINARY

Short title and commencement

- 1.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Registration of Sex Offenders Act 2021.
- (2) This Act comes into force on a date or dates appointed by the Minister by notice in the Gazette.

Interpretation

- 2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—
 - "authorised person" means a person appointed by the Commissioner under section 7(3);
 - "child" means an individual who has not reached the age of 18 years;

- "child-related employment" means employment involving contact with a child in connection with—
 - (a) child protection services;
 - (b) educational institutions:
 - (c) community centres, remand centres, youth residential centres, youth supervision units or youth justice centres;
 - (d) refuges or other residential facilities used by children;
 - (e) paediatric or maternity wards of hospitals;
 - clubs, associations or movements, including of a cultural, recreational
 or sporting nature, that provide services or conduct activities for,
 or directed at, children or whose membership mainly comprises
 children;
 - (g) religious organisations;
 - (h) child minding services;
 - (i) providing, on a publicly-funded or commercial basis, a transport service specifically for children;
 - (j) coaching or private tuition services for children;
 - (k) counselling or other support services for children;
 - (1) overnight camps for children regardless of the type of accommodation or of the number of children involved;
 - (m) school crossing services, being services provided by people employed to assist children to cross roads on their way to or from school;
 - (n) providing, on a commercial basis and not merely incidental to or in support of other business activities—
 - (i) an entertainment or party service specifically for children;
 - (ii) gym or play facilities specifically for children; or
 - (iii) photography services specifically for children; or
 - (o) talent competitions or pageants held for children on a commercial basis and not merely incidental to or in support of other business activities:

"Commissioner of Corrections" means the Commissioner of the Fiji Corrections Service;

[&]quot;Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Police;

- "corresponding law" means a law of a foreign jurisdiction that—
 - (a) provides for a person who has been convicted by a court of law for an offence to report in that jurisdiction information about himself or herself and to keep that information current for a specified period; or
 - (b) is prescribed by regulations as a corresponding law;
- "corresponding offence" means an offence under the laws of a foreign jurisdiction that is the same or substantially similar to a sexual offence;
- "corresponding sex offender" means a person who has been convicted of a corresponding offence in a foreign jurisdiction;
- "employment" has the meaning given in section 4 of the Employment Relations Act 2007;
- "immigration officer" has the meaning given in section 2(1) of the Immigration Act 2003;
- "initial report" means the first report made, or required to be made, by a sex offender under section 13;
- "juvenile" has the meaning given in section 2 of the Juveniles Act 1973;
- "Minister" means the Minister responsible for justice;
- "police station" includes a community police post;
- "register" means the Register of Sex Offenders established under section 6;
- "relevant personal information" means the information specified in section 12(1);
- "remote sex offender" means a sex offender who resides—
 - (a) more than 100 kilometres from the nearest police station;
 - (b) on an island where there is no police station; or
 - (c) in an area where transportation from the area to the nearest police station is reasonably likely to be a challenge;
- "reporting obligation" means a reporting obligation under this Act or any regulations made under this Act;
- "reporting period" means the period prescribed by regulations;
- "representative" means—
 - (a) in the case of a child, the parent or legal guardian of the child;
 - (b) in the case of a person who has a mental disorder, mental illness or who is of unsound mind, the legally appointed representative of the person; and