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(A)

COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2014

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No. 35 of 2014

COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2014

AN ACT TO AMEND THE COMPANIES ACT.

[Date of Assent - 19th September, 2014]

Enacted by the Parliament of The Bahamas

1. Short title and commencement.

- (1) This Act, which amends the Companies Act (*Ch. 308*), may be cited as the Companies (Amendment) Act, 2014.
- (2) This Act shall come into into operation on such date as the Minister may appoint by notice, published in the Gazette.

2. Amendment of section 2 of the principal Act.

Section 2 of the principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new definition in the appropriate alphabetical order—

““Minister” means the Minister responsible for companies;”.

3. Amendment of section 3 of the principal Act.

Section 3 of the principal Act is amended in subsection (3), by the insertion of the words “, whether manually or electronically,” immediately after the word “Registrar”.

4. Amendment of section 15 of the principal Act.

Section 15 of the principal Act is amended—

- (a) by renumbering subsections (2), (3), (4) and (5) as subsections (4), (5), (6) and (7);
- (b) by the insertion immediately after subsection (1) of the following new subsections (2) and (3)—
 - “(2) The name of an intended company may—

- (a) consist of words;
 - (b) a combination of words and numbers; or
 - (c) contain a dual name which shall include English and foreign names, in which case the English name need not be a translation of the foreign name.
- (3) For the purposes of subsection (2), where any person applies in the approved form for the reservation of a dual name of an intended company, he shall provide the translation of the accents, characters, other distinctive marks, script and symbols used in the foreign name.”.
- (d) in subsection (4), by the deletion of the words “six weeks” and the substitution therefor of the words “twenty-eight days”;
 - (e) in subsection (5) by the deletion of the words “six weeks” and the substitution therefor of the words “fourteen days and thereafter may grant two additional extensions which shall each be for a period of fourteen days”;
 - (f) by the insertion immediately after subsection (7) of the following new subsection (8)—

“(8) For the purposes of this section—

- (a) “**dual name**” means an English name and a foreign name used together;
- (b) “**foreign name**” means any name in a language other than English utilising any accents, characters, letters, distinctive marks, scripts, symbols and which does not have to be a translation or transliteration of any English name used in the dual name.”.

5. Insertion of new section 15A into the principal Act.

The principal Act is amended by the insertion immediately after section 15 of the following new section 15A—

“15A. No reservation of name required.