

BELIZE:

SOCIAL SECURITY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

1. Short title.
2. Amendment of section 69.
3. Amendment of section 70.
4. Insertion of new section 70A.
5. Amendment of section 75.
6. Commencement.

BELIZE

BILL

for

AN ACT to amend the Social Security Act, Chapter 44 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020; to allow for the retroactive appointment of a General Manager of the National Health Insurance Scheme and a Chair of the National Health Insurance Committee; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(Gazetted, 2024)

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:

PART I

Preliminary

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the

SOCIAL SECURITY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024

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

Amendment of section 69.

2. The principal Act is amended in section 69 by inserting the following terms and their corresponding definitions in their proper alphabetical sequence—

““General Manager” “means the person appointed as such pursuant to section 70;

CAP. 15.

“open tendering procedure” has the meaning assigned to it under section 2 of the Finance and Audit Reform Act;”.

Amendment of section 70.

3. The principal Act is amended in section 70 by repealing sub-section (2) and renumbering the section as section 70.

Insertion of new section 70A.

4. The principal Act is amended by inserting after section 70 the following new section—

Appointment of GM of the NHI Scheme.

“70A.–(1) There shall be a General Manager of the NHI Scheme who shall be appointed using the open tendering procedure outlined in the Finance and Audit Reform Act.

(2) The General Manager shall, subject to this Act and any directions by the Minister and the Board, be responsible for the management of the NHI Scheme.”.

5. Section 75 of the principal Act is amended–

Amendment of section 75.

(a) in sub-section (2) by repealing paragraphs (a) and (b) and replacing h with the following–

“(a) the Chairperson of the NHI Committee appointed under sub-section (5);

(b) the Chief Executive Officer of the Board;”;

(b) by inserting after paragraph (b), the following new paragraph (c)–

“(c) the General Manager of the NHI Scheme;”;

(c) by renumbering paragraphs (c) to (j) as (d) to (k);

(d) by repealing sub-section (5) and replacing it with the following–

“(5) The Minister shall appoint a fit and proper person as Chairperson of the NHI Committee and the Board shall appoint a Deputy Chair from amongst the membership thereof who will be entitled to act as Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson.”.

6. This Act shall take effect retroactively from–

Commencement.

(a) in relation to sections 2, 3, 4 and 5(b), (c) and (d) from the 1st day of September 2007; and

(b) in relation to section 5(a), from the 7th day of June 2008.