

INTERPRETATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2015

Explanatory Memorandum

1. This Bill is promoted by
2. This Bill restores the Chief Minister's power, conferred by section 20(1) of the Interpretation Act 1976, to make provision for the discharge of the Attorney General's functions where the Attorney General is absent or otherwise unable to act, or if the office of the Attorney General is vacant.
3. Clause 1 provides the short title of the resulting Act, which will come into operation on Royal Assent being announced to Tynwald.
4. Clause 2 amends section 20(1) of the Interpretation Act 1976 to restore the position to what it was before an amendment made by section 5(2) of the Law Officers Act 2014 ("the 2014 Act").
5. Clause 3 repeals section 5(2) of the 2014 Act.
6. The Bill has no impact upon public revenues or expenditure.
7. In the opinion of the member moving the Bill its provisions are compatible with the Convention rights within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 2001.



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A **BILL** to amend the Interpretation Act 1976; and for connected purposes

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen’s Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Council and Keys in Tynwald assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 Short title

The short title of this Act is the Interpretation (Amendment) Act 2015.

2 Amendment of the Interpretation Act 1976

In section 20(1) of the *Interpretation Act 1976* for “a judicial officer or the Attorney General” substitute **“a judicial officer”**.

3 Repeal

Section 5(2) of the *Law Officers Act 2014* is repealed.