

I assent.

(L.S.)

DOLORES CRISTINA

Acting President

10th March, 2015

ACT No. VII of 2015

AN ACT to amend various laws to allow the representation of Persons with Disability to various Authorities and Boards.

BE IT ENACTED by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the House of Representatives, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:-

Short title.

1. The short title of this Act is the Various Laws (Persons with Disability) (Membership in Various Entities) Act, 2015.

PART I

Amendments to the Housing Authority Act

Amendment of the Housing Authority Act. Cap. 261.

2. This Part amends the Housing Authority Act, and it shall be read and construed as one with the Housing Authority Act, hereinafter in this Part referred to as "the principal Act".

Amendment of article 6 of the principal Act.

3. Article 6 of the principal Act shall be amended as follows:

(a) in sub-article (1) thereof, for the words "but not more than ten other voting members" there shall be substituted the words "but not more than eleven other voting members"; and

(b) in sub-article (2) thereof, immediately after the words "from among public officers.", there shall be added the words "One of the members shall be a person with disability."

PART II
Amendments to the Education Act

4. This Part amends the Education Act, and it shall be read and construed as one with the Education Act, hereinafter in this Part referred to as "the principal Act".

Amendment of the Education Act.
Cap. 327.

5. Article 69 of the principal Act shall be amended as follows:

Amendment of article 69 of the principal Act.

(a) in sub-article (1) thereof, for the words "The Commission shall be composed of not less than seven and not more than nine members" there shall be substituted the words "The Commission shall be composed of not less than seven and not more than ten members"; and

(b) in sub-article (3) thereof, for the words "of the general socio-economic development.", there shall be substituted the words "of the general socio-economic development, and shall include a person with disability."

PART III
Amendments to the Employment and Training Services Act

6. This Part amends the Employment and Training Services Act, and it shall be read and construed as one with the Employment and Training Services Act, hereinafter in this Part referred to as "the principal Act".

Amendment of the Employment and Training Services Act.
Cap. 343.

7. Sub-article (2) of article 6 of the principal Act shall be amended as follows:

Amendment of article 6 of the principal Act.

(a) for the words "being not less than seven" there shall be substituted the words "being not less than eight"; and

(b) for the words "and for industry.", there shall be substituted the words "and for industry. One of the members of the Board shall be a person with disability."

PART IV
Amendments to the Broadcasting Act

8. This Part amends the Broadcasting Act, and it shall be read and construed as one with the Broadcasting Act, hereinafter in this Part referred to as "the principal Act".

Amendment of the Broadcasting Act.
Cap. 350.

9. In sub-article (2) of article 4 of the principal Act, for the words "not less than four nor more than six" there shall be substituted the words "not less than four nor more than seven. One of the

Amendment of article 4 of the principal Act.

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members shall be a person with disability."

PART V
Amendments to the Refugees Act

Amendment of
the Refugees
Act.
Cap. 420.

10. This Part amends the Refugees Act, and it shall be read and construed as one with the Refugees Act, hereinafter in this Part referred to as "the principal Act".

Amendment of
article 5 of the
principal Act.

11. Sub-article (1) of article 5 of the principal Act shall be amended as follows:

(a) for the words "The Refugee Appeals Board shall consist of a chairperson and two other members", there shall be substituted the words "The Refugee Appeals Board shall consist of a chairperson and three other members"; and

(b) in the proviso thereto, for the words "not less than seven years.", there shall be substituted the words "not less than seven years:", and immediately thereafter there shall be added the following new proviso:

"Provided further that one of the members shall be a person with disability."

PART VI
Amendments to the Malta Statistics Authority Act

Amendment of
the Malta
Statistics
Authority Act.
Cap. 422.

12. This Part amends the Malta Statistics Authority Act, and it shall be read and construed as one with the Malta Statistics Authority Act, hereinafter in this Part referred to as "the principal Act".

Amendment of
article 5 of the
principal Act.

13. Sub-article (1) of article 5 of the principal Act shall be amended as follows:

(a) in sub-paragraph (v) of paragraph (c) thereof, for the words "so appointed by the Minister.", there shall be substituted the words "so appointed by the Minister; and"; and

(b) immediately after sub-paragraph (v) of paragraph (c) thereof, there shall be added the following new paragraph:

"(d) a person with disability."

PART VII
Amendments to the Equality for Men and Women Act

14. This Part amends the Equality for Men and Women Act, and it shall be read and construed as one with the Equality for Men and Women Act, hereinafter in this Part referred to as "the principal Act".

Amendment of the Equality for Men and Women Act. Cap. 456.

15. In sub-article (1) of article 11 of the principal Act, for the words "and six other members, at least three of whom shall be women", there shall be substituted the words "and seven other members, at least three of whom shall be women; and one of the said seven other members shall be a person with disability."

Amendment of article 11 of the principal Act.

PART VIII
Amendments to the Domestic Violence Act

16. This Part amends the Domestic Violence Act, and it shall be read and construed as one with the Domestic Violence Act, hereinafter in this Part referred to as "the principal Act".

Amendment of the Domestic Violence Act. Cap. 481.

17. In sub-article (1) of article 3 of the principal Act for the words "not less than four other members appointed by the Minister", there shall be substituted the words "not less than five other members, one of whom shall be a person with disability, all such members being appointed by the Minister".

Amendment of article 3 of the principal Act.

PART IX
Amendments to the Voluntary Organisations Act

18. This Part amends the Voluntary Organisations Act, and it shall be read and construed as one with the Voluntary Organisations Act, hereinafter in this Part referred to as "the principal Act".

Amendment of the Voluntary Organisations Act. Cap. 492.

19. Article 35 of the principal Act shall be amended as follows:

Amendment to article 35 of the principal Act.

(a) sub-article (2) thereof shall be substituted by the following:

"(2) The Council shall be composed of a Chairperson and another eleven members. Out of these twelve members, including the Chairperson, one shall be appointed by the Minister to represent the Government, another member shall be the Commissioner *ex officio* and the other ten members shall be appointed, in accordance with sub-article (3), from among and to represent the voluntary sector."; and

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(b) paragraph (b) of sub-article (3) thereof shall be amended as follows:

(i) for the words "four members", there shall be substituted the words "five members";

(ii) in sub-paragraph (iv) thereof for the words "and international organisations:", there shall be substituted the words "and international organisations;"; and

(iii) immediately after sub-paragraph (iv) thereof, there shall be added the following new sub-paragraph:

"(v) one member to represent persons with a disability:".

PART X

Amendments to the Authority for Transport in Malta Act

Amendment of the Authority for Transport in Malta Act. Cap. 499.

20. This Part amends the Authority for Transport in Malta Act, and it shall be read and construed as one with the Authority for Transport in Malta Act, hereinafter in this Part referred to as "the principal Act".

Amendment of article 5 of the principal Act.

21. In sub-article (2) of article 5 of the principal Act, for the words "not more than ten other members", there shall be substituted the words "not more than eleven other members. One of the members shall be a person with disability.".

Passed by the House of Representatives at Sitting No. 245 of the 3rd March, 2015.

ANGLU FARRUGIA
Speaker

RAYMOND SCICLUNA
Clerk of the House of Representatives

