

A BILL

entitled

STATISTICS AMENDMENT ACT 2020

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Statistics Act 2002;

Be it enacted by The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and the House of Assembly of Bermuda, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Citation

1 This Act, which amends the Statistics Act 2002 (the "principal Act"), may be cited as the Statistics Amendment Act 2020.

Amends section 2

2 The principal Act is amended in section 2 by inserting in the appropriate alphabetical order the following definition—

"information in the public domain" includes information that can be found at companies, businesses and institutions the public has open access to and that is accessible to the public as a whole;

Amends section 4

3 The principal Act is amended by repealing section 4 and substituting the following—

"Duties of Director

4 (1) It shall be the duty of the Director—

- (a) in accordance with the provisions of this Act, to collect, compile, collate, analyse, abstract and publish statistical information relating to the commercial, industrial, social, financial, economic, and general activities and conditions of the people of Bermuda;
- (b) to take any census of population and housing in Bermuda;
- (c) to collaborate with Ministries, other Government Departments and public authorities in the collection, compilation, collation and publication of statistical information, including statistics derived

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from the activities of those Ministries, departments or public authorities.

(2) The Director shall in the performance of his duties—

- (a) promote the avoidance of duplication in the information collected by Ministries, other Government Departments and public authorities; and
- (b) generally promote, organise and develop an integrated scheme of economic and social statistics relating to Bermuda.

(3) The Director shall, in accordance with a direction given by the Minister, collect, compile, collate and analyse information in the public domain required to be used by the Minister and Cabinet for purposes of policy development.

(4) The Director may, for the purpose of the performance of any of his functions under this Act, employ such persons in addition to the staff of the Department as the Director may consider necessary for the particular purpose.

Collection of information in the public domain

4A (1) For the purposes of section 4(3), subject to the provisions of this Act, the Director shall, in accordance with a direction given by the Minister, from time to time, whether in conjunction with a census or not, collect information in the public domain on any matter specified in the Third Schedule.

(2) The Director shall periodically report to the Minister on the information in the public domain collected under subsection (1), and on any analysis made of that information.”

Amends section 16

4 The principal Act is amended in section 16 by deleting “First Schedule” and substituting “First and Third Schedules”.

Inserts Third Schedule

5 The principal Act is amended by inserting after the Second Schedule the following—

“THIRD SCHEDULE

(Section 4A)

1. Prices of goods sold at grocery stores. ”.

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EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill amends the Statistics Act 2002.

Clause 1 is the citation for the Bill.

Clause 2 inserts a definition of “information in the public domain” to include information that can be found at companies, businesses and institutions the public has open access to and that is accessible to the public as a whole.

Clause 3 amends section 4 by repealing and substituting sections 4 and 4A. The new section 4 provides an additional duty of the Director, namely, to collect and analyse information in the public domain to be used by the Minister and Cabinet for the purposes of policy development. The new section 4A is inserted to require the Director to collect information in the public domain on any matter specified in the Third Schedule and to require that the Director periodically reports to the Minister on the information collected and analysed.

Clause 4 amends section 16 to empower the Minister to amend the Third Schedule, which provides for matters on which information in the public domain can be collected by order subject to the negative resolution procedure.

Clause 5 amends the Act to insert the Third Schedule, which contains matters in the public domain on which information can be collected for purposes of policy development by the Minister and Cabinet.