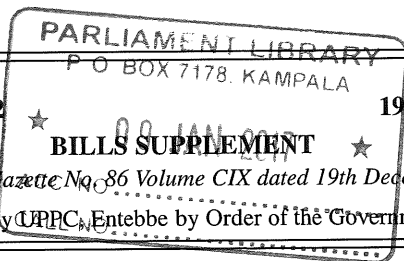


BILLS

SUPPLEMENT No. 12



19th December, 2016.

to the Uganda Gazette No. 86 Volume CIX dated 19th December, 2016.

Printed by UPPC, Entebbe by Order of the Government.

Bill No. 17 *Local Governments (Amendment) Bill* **2016**

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2016

MEMORANDUM

The object of this Bill is to amend the Local Governments Act, Cap 243 to reduce the time for the display of the voters' roll in respect of elections at administrative units; to provide for the Electoral Commission to determine objections arising from the display of the voters' roll in accordance with section 168B of the Act; to reduce the time provided for campaigns and for related matters.

Section 25 of the Electoral Commission Act requires the display of the voters' roll for at least twenty-one days during which complaints and objections to the voters' roll may be made. This period is necessary in cases where voters are registering for a general election since in that case voters are registered where they reside or originate. However, in the case of elections at the administrative units, section 46 of the Local Governments Act provides that an administrative unit is composed of all persons who are eighteen years or above who reside in that village and are willing to be members. These are the persons eligible to vote for a chairperson of a village council. These persons already reside in that area and as such the twenty-one day period provided for the display of the voters' roll causes delay in the holding of the elections. In addition, the Electoral Commission is already vested with powers under section 168B to settle disputes arising during the electoral process yet a tribunal is still required to be constituted to address the complaints and objections. This adds further cost to the electoral process at this level.

The Bill seeks to amend the Local Governments Act to abridge the time required to display the voters' roll and to provide for the Electoral Commission to determine disputes arising out of the display of the voters' roll in accordance with powers already vested in the Electoral Commission by section 168B of the Local Governments Act. The amendments are intended to facilitate the holding of elections for administrative units in a more cost effective manner.

TOM R. BUTIME, MP
Minister of Local Government.



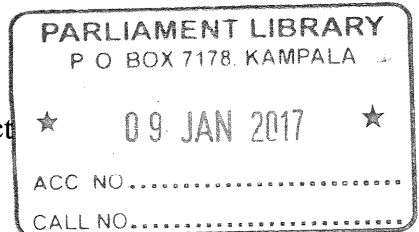
THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2016

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

Clause

1. Amendment of Cap. 243.
2. Amendment of section 161 of the principal Act.





A Bill for an Act

ENTITLED

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2016.

An Act to amend the Local Governments Act, Cap. 243 to reduce the time for the display of the voters’ roll in respect of elections at administrative units; to provide for the Electoral Commission to determine objections arising from the display of the voters’ roll in accordance with section 168B of the Act; to reduce the time provided for campaigns and for related matters.

BE IT ENACTED by Parliament as follows:

1. Amendment of Cap. 243.

The Local Governments Act, in this Act referred to as the principal Act is amended by substituting for section 159A, the following—

“159A. Display of voters’ roll for administrative unit elections.

For the purposes of the village, parish and ward elections, the following provisions shall have effect notwithstanding the Electoral Commission Act—

- (a) the period of display of the voters’ roll under section 25(1) of the Electoral Commission Act, shall be at least two days;
- (b) objections to the voters’ roll shall be decided by the Electoral Commission in accordance with section 168B.”

2. Amendment of section 161 of the principal Act.

Section 161 of the principal Act is amended in subsection (4) by substituting for the words “seven days”, the words “one day”.