

PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE, LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS

FURTHER CALL FOR WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The Standing Committee on Justice, Law and Human Rights has commenced its review on the Child Justice Bill (Bill No. 4 of 2024), Child Care and Protection Bill (Bill No. 5 of 2024) and Natural Disaster and Risk Management Bill (Bill No. 6 of 2024).

The **Child Justice Bill 2024** ('**Bill'**), seeks to repeal the provisions of the Act that deal with children in conflict with the law (formerly known as juveniles). The Bill provides a more comprehensive framework for the special treatment of children at all stages of the child justice process, from the point of their initial contact with the police through to trial, rehabilitation and reintegration into the community and to their families. (Bill-No.-4-Child-Justice-Bill-2024.pdf (parliament.gov.fj))

The **Child Care and Protection 2024** ('**Bill**') replaces the child protection sections of the Juveniles Act 1973 ('Act'). It outlines what the country will do to promote the wellbeing of children and to protect them from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation. The intension of the Child Care and Protection Bill is to provide a more comprehensive framework for child welfare services, and in particular to better guide the work of the Ministry responsible for child welfare ('**Ministry**') in preventing and responding to child abuse. (<u>Bill-No.-5-Child-Care-and-Protection-Bill-2024.pdf</u> (parliament.gov.fj))

The **National Disaster Risk Management Bill 2024** ('Bill') seeks to repeal the Natural Disaster Management Act 1998 and to make provision for disaster risk management governance arrangements to ensure clarity and efficiency in response to new hazards and disasters. (Bill-No.-6-National-Disaster-Risk-Management-Bill-2024-.pdf (parliament.gov.fj))

In that regard, the Committee will be conducting public consultation meetings in the following areas and on the following dates and cordially invites any interested person or institution wishing to provide their views and comments on the Bill, to attend the public consultation meeting.

Day/Date	Venue	Starting Time
Monday 19 August 2024	Naibita, Wainibuka Tailevu	11:00am – 1:00pm.
Tuesday 20 August 2024	Namara Village, Nalawa, Ra	2:00pm – 4:00pm
Wednesday 21 August 2024	Lautoka City Council Chambers Lautoka	10:00am - 12:00pm
Thursday 22 August 2024	Nahigatoka Village Nadroga	2:00pm – 4:00pm.
Friday 23 August 2024	Vatubalavu Village, Navosa	2:00pm – 4:00pm.

Monday 26 August 2024	Korowiri Village, Labasa	2:00pm – 4:00pm
Tuesday 27 August 2024	Nabouwalu Village, Bua	1:00pm – 3:00pm
Wednesday 28 August 2024	Wailevu Village Community Hall	2:00pm – 4:00pm
Thursday 29 August 2024	Vusaratu Village, Cakaudrove	2:00pm – 4:00pm
Friday 30 August 2024	Naboutini Village, Cakaudrove	2:00pm – 4:00pm

For any query, please contact the Committee Secretariat through e-mail address: jackson_cakacaka@yahoo.com and alumita.cabealawa@legislature.gov.fj and mobile:9908 595 /9347570

A copy of the Bills can be found on the Fiji Parliament website, via the link: http://www.parliament.gov.fj/bills/

HON. RATU RAKUITA VAKALALABURE

(CHAIRPERSON)

RA Kalaldan