

PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE, LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS

PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE SUGAR INDUSTRY (AMENDMENT) BILL 2024

The Standing Committee on Justice, Law and Human Rights has commenced its review on the **Sugar Industry (Amendment) Bill 2024.**

The Sugar Industry Act 1984 (**'Act'**) generally provides for the administration of the sugar industry. The Act also establishes the Sugar Cane Growers' Council (**'Council'**).

The function of the Council is to ensure the protection and development of the sugar cane industry. The Council was established with specific functions to represent the interests of all registered cane growers in Fiji.

Prior to 2015, the members of the Council were elected through an election process stipulated in the Act. In 2015, through the Sugar Industry (Amendment) Act 2015, the Act was amended whereby the members of the Council were to be appointed by the Minister.

Therefore, the Sugar Industry (Amendment) Bill 2024 ('**Bill**') seeks to amend the Act to allow for the election of members to the Council. The Bill will also amend the composition of the Council and outline the electoral process for election to the Council.

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 27 January 2025	Jai Singh Temple, Lomawai, Nadroga	4:00 p.m.
Tuesday 28 January 2025	FSC Navo	2:00 p.m.
	Rashmir Residence, Nadi	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday 29 January 2025	Sugar Cane Growers Council Hall, Lautoka	2:00 p.m.
	Hira Residence, Drasa, Lautoka	5:00 p.m.
Thursday 30 January 2025	Mr. Arun Sharma's Residence, Ba	11:00 a.m.
	Rarawai Temple, Ba	3:00 p.m.
Friday 31 January 2025	Tavua College, Tavua	11:00 a.m.
Saturday 1 February 2025	Nanuku Community Hall	11:00 a.m.
	George Shiu Raj, Rakiraki	2:00 p.m.
	Navolau No.1 Village Hall	4:30 p.m.

	FCS, Vanua Levu Club	10:30 a.m.
Monday 3 February 2025	Wainikoro Sector Office, Labasa	2:00 p.m.
	Seaqaqa Police Bure, Seaqaqa	10:00 a.m.
Tuesday 4 February 2025	Solove Primary School, Seaqaqa	3:00 p.m.

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: <u>http://www.parliament.gov.fj/bills/</u>

HON. RATU RAKUITA VAKALALABURE

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(CHAIRPERSON)