

BILL NO. 3 OF 2025

A BILL

FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAND TRANSPORT ACT 1998

ENACTED by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji—

Short title and commencement

1.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Land Transport (Amendment) Act 2025.

(2) This Act comes into force on a date appointed by the Minister by notice in the Gazette.

Section 57 amended

2. Section 57(2) of the Land Transport Act 1998 is amended by deleting “shall” and substituting “may”.

March 2025

LAND TRANSPORT (AMENDMENT) BILL 2025

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Bill and is intended only to indicate its general effect)

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Land Transport Act 1998 (**‘Act’**) provides for *inter alia* the regulation, the registration and the use of vehicles, and the enforcement of traffic laws.
- 1.2 A recent analysis of class 2 provisional drivers’ licence holders in Fiji from August 2021 to October 2024 revealed critical insights into traffic infringements and accidents. A total of 49,087 traffic infringements were recorded, peaking in 2022, followed by a decline in subsequent years, indicating potential improvements in compliance. Monthly averages showed a steady decrease from 2,915 traffic infringements in late 2021 to 487 in 2024. While 27 road accidents were documented from 2018 to 2023, primarily due to speeding, driver fatigue and improper overtaking, these behavioural issues highlight the need for improved education and enforcement. Strengthening driver education, imposing stricter penalties for repeat offenders and utilising technology could enhance road safety.
- 1.3 Therefore, the Land Transport (Amendment) Bill 2025 (**‘Bill’**) seeks to amend the Act to give discretionary powers to the Land Transport Authority (**‘Authority’**) regarding the issuance of a full licence to assist in fostering a safer driving culture.

2.0 CLAUSES

- 2.1 Clause 1 of the Bill provides for the short title and commencement. If passed by Parliament, the amending legislation will come into force on a date appointed by the Minister by notice in the Gazette.
- 2.2 Clause 2 of the Bill amends section 57(2) of the Act by deleting “shall” and substituting “may” to give the Authority a discretionary power as to whether or not a full licence may be given to a provisional licensed driver following the 2 years of probation.

3.0 MINISTERIAL RESPONSIBILITY

3.1 The Act comes under the responsibility of the Minister responsible for transport.

G. E. LEUNG
Attorney-General