



No. 1 of 2008

I assent,

(SIR COLVILLE N. YOUNG)
Governor-General

30th July, 2008

AN ACT to amend the Referendum Act, Chapter 10 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000-2003, to enable the general public to call for a referendum on any issue of public importance; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(Gazetted 2nd August, 2008.)

BE IT ENACTED, by and with the advice and consent of the House of Representatives and the Senate of Belize and by the authority of the same, as follows:-

1. This Act may be cited as the

Short title.

REFERENDUM (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2008.

CAP. 10

and shall be read and construed as one with the Referendum Act, which is hereinafter referred to as the principal Act.

Repeal and replacement of section 2.

2. Section 2 of the principal Act is hereby repealed and replaced by the following: -

“Circumstances in which a referendum shall be held.

2. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, a referendum shall be held in any of the following circumstances: -

- (a) where the National Assembly passes a resolution declaring that a certain issue or matter is of sufficient national importance that it should be submitted to the electors for their views through a referendum; or
- (b) where a petition is presented to the Governor-General signed by at least ten percent of the registered electors in Belize whose names appear in the approved voters' list existing at the time of presentation of the petition (or, if the referendum is to be held in any specific district or area of Belize, twenty-five percent of the registered electors in that district or area) praying that in their opinion a certain issue or matter is of sufficient public importance that it should be submitted to the electors for their views through a referendum; or
- (c) where any law provides for the holding of a referendum on any specific issue or matter; or
- (d) on any proposed settlement with the Republic of Guatemala for resolving the Belize/Guatemala border dispute.

