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No. 3 of 2025

First Session Thirteenth Parliament Republic of
Trinidad and Tobago

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

BILL

AN ACT to amend the Children’s Life Fund Act,
Chap. 29:01

THE CHILDREN'S LIFE FUND (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

Explanatory Note

(These notes form no part of the Bill but are intended only to indicate its general purport)

This Bill seeks to amend the Children's Life Fund Act, Chap. 29:01 to expand the category of applicants who may qualify for a grant thereunder by the introduction of a new Schedule 3 which list life threatening illnesses, as well as to introduce a mechanism to allow the Minister of Health to review a decision of the Board of Management of the Children's Life Fund Authority where an application has been rejected for a grant under the Act.

Clause 1 of the Bill would provide the short title of the Act.

Clause 2 of the Bill would provide for the interpretation of the words "the Act" to mean the Children's Life Fund Act.

Clause 3 of the Bill would amend section 4(2)(b) of the Act by deleting the words "life-threatening illnesses" and substituting the words "life limiting illnesses listed in Schedule 3".

Clause 4 of the Bill would seek to amend section 9(f) of the Act by inserting the words "or reject" after the word "approve" to clarify the powers of the Board.

Clause 5 of the Bill would amend section 19 of the Act by deleting the words "life-threatening illness" and substituting the words "life limiting illness listed in Schedule 3" to expand the category of applicants.

Clause 6 of the Bill seeks to insert two new sections—

Section 21A which would allow the Minister of Health to review an application for a grant that has been rejected by the Board. The Chief Executive Officer of the Board would be required to submit the decision of the Board together with the supporting documents for review by the Minister. The Minister would be empowered to affirm, annul or vary that decision and inform the Board of his decision accordingly; and

Section 21B would seek to grant the Minister the power to review and approve a grant in exceptional circumstances.

Clause 7 of the Bill seeks to insert a new Schedule 3 listing the life limiting illnesses.

BILL

AN ACT to amend the Children's Life Fund Act,
Chap. 29:01

[, 2025]

ENACTED by the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago as Enactment
follows:

1. This Act may be cited as the Children's Life Fund Short title
(Amendment) Act, 2025.

2. In this Act, "the Act" means the Children's Life Interpretation
Fund Act. Chap. 29:01

Section 4 amended **3.** Section 4(2)(b) of the Act is amended by deleting the words “life threatening illnesses” and substituting the words “life limiting illnesses listed in Schedule 3”.

Section 9 amended **4.** Section 9(f) of the Act is amended by inserting after the word “approve” the words “or reject”.

Section 19 amended **5.** Section 19(e) of the Act is amended by deleting the words “life-threatening illness” and substituting the words “life limiting illness listed in Schedule 3”.

Section 21A and 21B inserted **6.** The Act is amended by inserting after section 21, the following sections:

“Minister may review decision of the Board 21A. (1) Where the Board rejects an application for a grant under this Act, the Chief Executive Officer shall, within three days thereof, submit the decision of the Board together with its reasons and all supporting documents to the Minister, for his review.

(2) The Minister may, after reviewing the decision of the Board, affirm, annul or vary that decision.

(3) The Minister shall notify the Board of his decision within seven days.

Minister may grant approval in exceptional circumstances 21B. (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Minister may in urgent or exceptional circumstances, consider and treat with an application for a grant if the Minister is satisfied that—

(a) the Board is unable to meet for any reason or otherwise perform its functions in a timely manner; or

(b) action is required in the public interest in furtherance of the purposes of this Act.

(2) Where the Minister acts pursuant to subsection (1), he shall notify—

(a) the Board; or

(b) where the Board is not constituted, the Chief Executive Officer,

of the decision taken and the reasons for doing so, within seven days of that decision.”.

Schedule inserted

7. The Act is amended by inserting after Schedule 2, the following Schedule:

“SCHEDULE 3

LIFE LIMITING ILLNESSES

Oncology:

Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia

Acute Myeloid Leukaemia

Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia

Mature B cell Lymphoma

Hodgkin’s Lymphoma

Neuroblastoma

Osteosarcoma

Medulloblastoma

Retinoblastoma

Soft tissue sarcoma

Wilms tumour

Cardiology:

Hypoplastic left heart

Complex anorectal and genitourinary anomalies

Pancreatic tumours

Hepatic tumours

Liver transplant

Kidney transplant patients

- Severe Aplastic Anaemia
- Beta thalassemia
- Sickle cell disease
- Inherited bone marrow failure syndromes

Congenital hyperinsulinemia Pheochromocytoma”.

Clerk of the House

I confirm the above.

Speaker

Passed in the Senate this day of , 2025.

Clerk of the Senate

I confirm the above.

President of the Senate

No. 3 of 2025

FIRST SESSION
THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT
REPUBLIC OF
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

BILL

AN ACT to amend the Children's
Life Fund Act, Chap. 29:01

Received and read the

First time

Second time

Third time