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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## **BILL**

AN ACT to provide for special measures for upholding  
and preserving the rule of law, public order,  
citizen security and public safety within certain  
geographically defined areas of Trinidad and  
Tobago, and for other related matters

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THE LAW REFORM (ZONES OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS)  
(SPECIAL SECURITY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MEASURES) BILL, 2026

**Explanatory Note**

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

The purpose of this Bill is to introduce legislation to provide for special measures for upholding and preserving the rule of law, public order, citizen security and public safety within certain geographically defined areas of Trinidad and Tobago. The Bill seeks to curb the nation's crime through security force occupation of vulnerable communities. It also aims to preserve human rights during the period of occupation. The Bill provides for a defined area to be declared by the Prime Minister a Zone of Special Operations in two specified circumstances, including a threat to the rule of law and public order. An Order revoking a Zone may be made at any time by the Prime Minister.

During an operation, a person may not be detained or arrested in a Zone unless proper grounds can be determined by the person in charge. The normal criminal law procedures shall be applicable. Hence, a person who is arrested would, upon arrest, be informed of the reason. The person would be brought before a Magistrate to determine whether the reason for the arrest is justified. The Bill contains twenty-eight clauses, and requires a special majority vote.

Clause 1 of the Bill provides for the short title of the Act, for which this is the Bill.

Clause 2 of the Bill provides that the Act shall come into operation by Proclamation.

Clause 3 of the Bill provides that the Act shall have effect even though it is inconsistent with the Constitution.

Clause 4 of the Bill provides for the interpretation provision.

Clause 5 of the Bill provides for the objects of the Bill.

Clause 6 of the Bill provides for the declaration of a Zone of Special Operations by the Prime Minister, by Order.

Clause 7 of the Bill provides for the extension of geographical limits or the period of time of a Zone. An Order made under this provision is subject to affirmative resolution of Parliament.

Clause 8 of the Bill provides for the Prime Minister or the Minister assigned responsibility for national security to make a statement to Parliament within fourteen days of the date an Order is made under section 6.

Clause 9 of the Bill provides for the revocation of an Order declaring a Zone.

Clause 10 of the Bill provides for the designation of a joint command to be jointly in charge of operations within a declared Zone.

Clause 11 of the Bill places a duty on the Joint Command to submit a written report to the National Security Council every thirty days during the period that a Zone is in operation.

Clause 12 of the Bill provides for the suspension of operations or change of a Joint Command in any Zone at the discretion of the Prime Minister.

Clause 13 of the Bill provides for the identification of members of a Joint Force.

Clause 14 of the Bill provides for the powers of a Joint Command, which include to establish a cordon around or within a Zone, and to impose a curfew in a Zone.

Clause 15 of the Bill provides for the duration of a cordon or curfew in a Zone.

Clause 16 of the Bill provides for the powers of search and seizure of a member of a Joint Force within a Zone.

Clause 17 of the Bill provides for the custody or disposal of any vehicle, article or document seized within a Zone.

Clause 18 of the Bill provides for the powers of arrest or detention where a Joint Force is carrying out an operation in a Zone.

Clause 19 of the Bill makes it an offence to obstruct, threaten or assault a member of the Joint Command or Joint Force who is performing a duty under this Act.

Clause 20 of the Bill provides for persons held in custody.

Clause 21 of the Bill provides for the treatment of persons arrested or detained. The detainee is allowed visits from his spouse, partner, family member, religious counsellor, registered medical practitioner, and Attorney-at-law, among other things.

Clause 22 of the Bill provides for the use of body-worn cameras by members of the Joint Force when conducting operations within a Zone.

Clause 23 of the Bill provides for the registration of weapons with the Trinidad and Tobago Forensic Science Center prior to the conduct of operations within a Zone.

Clause 24 of the Bill places a duty on a person in a Zone to disclose his proper name and address when so requested by a member of the Joint Force.

Clause 25 of the Bill provides for the establishment of a Social Transformation Committee.

Clause 26 of the Bill provides for the functions of the Social Transformation Committee.

Clause 27 of the Bill provides a regulatory making power to the Minister with responsibility for national security to give effect to the purpose of this Bill.

Clause 28 of the Bill provides for a review of the Act for this Bill to be conducted from time to time by a Parliamentary Committee. The first such review shall be conducted no later than three years after the date of declaration of the first Zone.

THE LAW REFORM (ZONES OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS)  
(SPECIAL SECURITY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOP-  
MENT MEASURES) BILL, 2026

**Arrangement of Clauses**

PART I—PRELIMINARY

*Clause*

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3. Act inconsistent with Constitution
4. Interpretation
5. Objects of Act

PART II—ZONE OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS

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PART III—ADMINISTRATION OF SPECIAL OPERATION WITHIN  
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11. Duty of Joint Command to submit report
12. Suspension of operation or change of Joint Command
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14. Powers to establish cordons and impose curfews
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17. Custody or disposal of any vehicle, article or document seized
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19. Objection, etc.
20. Persons held in custody
21. Treatment of persons arrested or detained

- 22. Use of body-worn cameras
- 23. Registration of weapons
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PART V—SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION COMMITTEE

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SCHEDULE

## **BILL**

AN ACT to provide for special measures for upholding and preserving the rule of law, public order, citizen security and public safety within certain geographically defined areas of Trinidad and Tobago, and for other related matters

[ , 2026]

WHEREAS it is enacted by section 13(1) of the Preamble Constitution that an Act of Parliament to which that section applies may expressly declare that it shall have effect even though inconsistent with sections 4 and 5 of the Constitution and, if any Act does so declare, it shall have effect accordingly:

And whereas it is provided in section 13(2) of the Constitution that an Act of Parliament to which that section applies is one the Bill for which has been passed by both Houses of Parliament and at the final vote thereon in each House has been supported by the votes of not less than three-fifths of all the members of that House:

And whereas it is necessary and expedient that the provisions of this Act shall have effect even though inconsistent with sections 4 and 5 of the Constitution:

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

PART I—PRELIMINARY

Short title            **1.** This Act may be cited as the Law Reform (Zones of Special Operations) (Special Security and Community Development Measures) Act, 2026.

Commencement        **2.** This Act shall come into operation on a date to be fixed by the President by Proclamation.

Act inconsistent with Constitution        **3.** This Act shall have effect even though inconsistent with sections 4 and 5 of the Constitution.

Interpretation        **4.** In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—  
                           “Committee” means the Social Transformation Committee of the Zone established under section 25;  
                           “document” means, in addition to a document in writing, anything or manner in which information of any description is recorded or stored;  
                           “Joint Command” means the persons designated under section 10(1);  
                           “Joint Force” means the members of the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force and the members of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service who are assigned to operate within a Zone;

“National Security Council” means the committee of Cabinet with responsibility for defence and national security;

“police officer” has the same meaning as in the Police Service Act, and includes a member of the Special Reserve Police established under the Special Reserve Police Act, a member of a Municipal Police Service established under the Municipal Corporations Act, or any person to whom a precept has been issued under the Supplemental Police Act;

“Prime Minister in Council” means the Prime Minister presiding as the chairman of the National Security Council;

“Trinidad and Tobago” includes—

- (a) the Exclusive Economic Zone established under section 14 of the Archipelagic Waters and Exclusive Economic Zone Act;
- (b) the archipelagic waters of Trinidad and Tobago as established under section 5 of the Archipelagic Waters and Exclusive Economic Zone Act; and
- (c) the territorial sea of Trinidad and Tobago as established under section 3 of the Territorial Sea Act;

“Zone” means the area declared as a zone of special operations under section 6.

**5.** The objects of this Act are to—

- (a) empower the Prime Minister in Council to declare an area as a Zone;
- (b) uphold the rule of law while protecting the fundamental rights and freedoms of persons who reside, raise families, work or conduct lawful business in a Zone;

- (c) conduct law enforcement activities to rid a Zone of all illegal activities, firearms, weapons, ammunition and other contraband;
- (d) empower the members of the Joint Force to search a person, vehicle or place without a warrant, within a Zone, if they reasonably suspect that an offence has been, is being or is about to be committed;
- (e) provide that the Joint Command may establish a cordon and declare a curfew in a Zone;
- (f) facilitate the re-direction of young persons out of criminal activity;
- (g) promote social and economic development in a Zone through the efforts of various Government agencies and civil society; and
- (h) provide for the establishment of the Committee to, among other things, develop a sustainable development plan for the Zone.

## PART II—ZONE OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS

Declaration of  
Zone

**6.** (1) Where there are reasonable grounds to believe that there is—

- (a) rampant criminality, such as murder, gang warfare, or high or escalating levels of violence; or
- (b) the threat to the rule of law and public order,

the Prime Minister in Council, may by Order, declare any geographically defined area within a single continuous boundary in Trinidad and Tobago as a Zone.

(2) An Order made under subsection (1)—

- (a) shall specify the geographical limits of the Zone;

- (b) shall not exceed one hundred and eighty days;
- (c) shall specify the period of time during which the Zone is to operate;
- (d) shall not declare the entire of Trinidad and Tobago as a Zone.

**7.** (1) Where an Order is made under section 6, the Prime Minister in Council after consultation with the Commissioner of Police and the Chief of Defence Staff, may by Order amend, vary or add to the geographical limits or the period of time of a Zone. Extension of period

(2) The period of time of a Zone may be extended for such periods, each not exceeding one hundred and eighty days during which a Zone is to operate.

(3) An Order made under this section shall be subject to affirmative resolution of Parliament.

**8.** Where an Order is made under section 6, the Prime Minister or the Minister assigned responsibility for national security shall make a statement to Parliament within fourteen days of the date of the Order. Statement to Parliament

**9.** The Order declaring a Zone may be revoked at any time by the Prime Minister in Council on his own motion or on the recommendation of the Commissioner of Police and the Chief of Defence Staff. Revocation of the Order

### PART III—ADMINISTRATION OF SPECIAL OPERATION WITHIN ZONE

**10.** (1) Where a Zone has been declared, the Prime Minister in Council shall designate a member of the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force, not below the rank of Major, nominated by the Chief of Defence Staff and a member of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service, not below the rank of Superintendent, nominated by the Commissioner of Police, to be jointly in charge of operations within the Zone. Designation of Joint Command

(2) The Joint Command shall be persons who, in addition to their general training as members of the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force and the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service, respectively, are additionally trained in human rights, the use of force and community development initiatives.

(3) Every Zone shall have a written accountability and reporting system as specified by the National Security Council.

(4) The Joint Command and every member of the Joint Force shall comply with the written accountability and reporting system referred to in subsection (3).

(5) A person who fails to comply with subsection (4) is liable to disciplinary action.

Duty of Joint  
Command to submit  
report

**11.** (1) During the period that a Zone is declared, the Joint Command shall submit a written report to the National Security Council every thirty days.

(2) A member of the Joint Command who fails to comply with subsection (1) is liable to disciplinary action.

Suspension of opera-  
tion or change of  
Joint  
Command

**12.** (1) The Prime Minister in Council may suspend the operations in a Zone—

- (a) on the written recommendation of the Commissioner of Police and the Chief of Defence Staff; or
- (b) where the Prime Minister in Council considers it necessary to do so.

(2) The Prime Minister in Council may change the Joint Command of a Zone—

- (a) in the case of the member nominated by the Chief of Defence Staff, on the recommendation of the Chief of Staff; or

- (b) in the case of the member nominated by the Commissioner of Police, on the recommendation of the Commissioner of Police.

**13.** Subject to the approval of the National Security Council, the Commissioner of Police and the Chief of Defence Staff shall determine the method by which the identity of each member of the Joint Force who is conducting operations within a Zone may be ascertained.

PART IV—POWERS OF JOINT FORCE IN ZONE

**14.** (1) In respect of any Zone, action may be taken under either paragraph (a) or (b), or both—

- (a) the Joint Command may establish a cordon around or in the Zone, and shall, as soon as is reasonably practicable after the cordon is established, cause a notice of the establishment of the cordon to be published by any means and displayed in such one or more conspicuous locations in and around the Zone, as will ensure that the notice is brought to the attention of persons within the Zone and persons seeking entry to the Zone;

- (b) the Commissioner of Police and the Chief of Defence Staff—

- (i) may impose a curfew in the Zone, between such hours as may be specified, requiring persons within the Zone to remain within their premises during the hours so specified, unless otherwise authorized in writing by the member of the Joint Force who is in charge of enforcing the curfew; and

- (ii) shall, as soon as reasonably practicable after the curfew is imposed, cause a notice of the imposition of the curfew to be published by any means and displayed in such one or more conspicuous locations in and around the Zone, as will ensure that the notice is brought to the attention of persons within the Zone and persons seeking entry to the Zone;

(2) For the avoidance of doubt, whenever a cordon is established, or a curfew is imposed under subsection (1), any member of the Joint Force may for the purpose of enforcing such cordon or curfew, exercise such powers as are vested in a constable.

(3) A notice under subsection (1) shall—

- (a) be in such form as shall be prescribed;
- (b) in the case of a cordon, specify the boundaries of the cordon and the requirements to be complied with by persons within, or in relation to, the area falling within the boundaries of the cordon; and
- (c) in the case of a curfew specify—
  - (i) the hours of the curfew; and
  - (ii) the requirement that persons within the Zone are to remain within their premises during the hours so specified, unless otherwise authorised in writing by the member of the Joint Force who is in charge of enforcing the curfew.

(4) A person who without reasonable excuse contravenes any requirement specified in a notice given under subsection (1)(a) and (b) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of fifty thousand dollars and to imprisonment for one year.

(5) The action that may be taken under subsection (1)(b) by—

- (a) the Commissioner of Police, may be taken by a police officer not below the rank of Assistant Commissioner of Police, designated by the Commissioner of Police for that purpose; or
- (b) the Chief of Defence Staff, may be taken by a member of the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force not below the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, designated by the Chief of Defence Staff for that purpose.

Duration of  
cordon and  
curfew

**15.** Where a cordon or curfew is established or imposed under section 14(1)—

- (a) the cordon shall endure for a period not exceeding twenty-four hours; and
- (b) the curfew shall endure for a period not exceeding seventy-two hours.

Search and seizure

**16.** (1) A member of the Joint Force may search any place, vehicle or person within a Zone, without a warrant, upon reasonable suspicion that an offence is in the course of being committed or has been committed or is about to be committed.

(2) Where a search of any place, vehicle or person is being undertaken, it shall be the duty of the person in charge of the search to take such steps as are reasonably practicable in the circumstances to ensure—

- (a) the attendance, at all stages of the search, of the owner or occupier of the place or the owner or person in possession of the vehicle

or, as the case may be, the agent of the owner, occupier or person in possession of the vehicle;

- (b) that the owner, occupier or person in possession of the place or vehicle or, as the case may be, the agent of the said owner, occupier or person is afforded every opportunity to observe everything done in relation to the search; and
- (c) a female person shall be searched by a female police officer.

(3) A police officer, may in connection with a search, seize any vehicle, article or document that will assist in preventing or controlling a public disorder or that is likely to be of substantial value, whether or not by itself, to the investigation of any offence.

(4) A police officer shall not seize—

- (a) any tool of a lawful trade or business; or
- (b) any article or document that is subject to legal professional privilege.

(5) The police officer shall take such steps as are necessary to ensure that—

- (a) a list is compiled of all vehicles, articles or documents seized; and
- (b) a receipt of any vehicle, article or document, as the case may be, which is included in the list, is given to the owner or person in possession of that vehicle, article or document or the agent of the owner or person in possession of the vehicle as soon as possible.

Custody or disposal  
of any vehicle, article  
or document seized

**17.** (1) Any vehicle, article or document seized under section 16 shall be secured in such place as an officer designated by the Joint Command may approve pending determination of any examination, investigation, trial or enquiry.

(2) If anything seized is perishable, it shall be disposed of in such manner as may be approved by the officer designated under subsection (1).

(3) Where the officer designated under subsection (1) has reasonable grounds to believe that any vehicle, article or document seized will no longer assist in preventing or controlling public disorder or is no longer of evidential value in any criminal proceedings arising from, or in, connection with a search, that officer shall immediately cause the vehicle, article or document to be returned to the owner or person in possession or the agent of the owner or person in possession, and shall cause the owner, person in possession or agent, as the case may be, to sign a receipt for that vehicle, article or document.

(4) A person who believes that a vehicle, article or document seized under subsection (1) ought to be returned to him pursuant to subsection (3) may apply to a Magistrate for the return of the item.

(5) A Magistrate to whom an application is made under subsection (4) shall order the return of the vehicle, article or document (as the case may be) to the applicant, or to such other person whom the Magistrate is satisfied is entitled to its return, if the Magistrate is satisfied that there are no reasonable grounds as referred to in subsection (3).

**18.** (1) Where the Joint Force is carrying out an operation in a Zone, a person shall not be arrested or detained unless the officer in charge of the operation is satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for the arrest or detention of the person.

(2) Where a person is arrested or detained in a Zone, that person shall—

(a) at the time of his arrest or detention, or as soon as is reasonably practicable, be told, in a language which he understands, of the

reason for his arrest or detention, unless the circumstances are such that the person should know; and

- (b) immediately, or as soon as is reasonably practicable, be taken before a Magistrate who shall determine whether or not there are reasonable grounds for the arrest or detention.

(3) Where the Magistrate is satisfied that the arrest or detention of the person in a Zone is reasonably required in the interest of justice he may, having regard to such further investigations as may be necessary, order that—

- (a) the person shall be remanded in custody for a period not exceeding forty-eight hours; and
- (b) at the expiration of the period of forty-eight hours, the person shall be taken before a Judge of the High Court.

(4) Where the Magistrate makes an order under subsection (3) in respect of the person, that person shall be taken to a prison or a police station without delay, and an entry shall be made in the station diary.

(5) Where the Magistrate is not satisfied that the arrest or detention of the person is reasonably required in the interest of justice, he shall order that the person be released immediately.

(6) The powers exercisable under this section in respect of a person who could have been arrested or detained in a Zone but who is in the process of fleeing the Zone shall be exercisable in respect of that person outside of the boundaries of the Zone, as if that person were located in the Zone at the time of the arrest or detention.

**19.** (1) A person commits an offence if that person— Obstruction, etc.

- (a) threatens or assaults a member of the Joint Command or Joint Force, or any other person performing any function under this Act; or
- (b) without lawful justification or excuse obstructs or hinders a member of the Joint Command or Joint Force, or any other person performing any function under this Act.

(2) A person who commits an offence under subsection (1) is liable on summary conviction to a fine of fifty thousand dollars and to imprisonment for one year.

**20.** (1) Where a person is in custody for thirty-six Persons held in custody hours and no order has been made by a Magistrate under section 18(3), the officer in charge of the police station shall inform an officer not below the rank of Assistant Superintendent (hereinafter referred to as “the prescribed officer”) of the circumstances of the case and shall record in the station diary the fact that the prescribed officer has been so informed.

(2) The prescribed officer shall, upon receipt of the information referred to in subsection (1), cause such investigations as he thinks necessary to be made into circumstances of each case and shall cause such person to be brought immediately before a Magistrate.

**21.** (1) Every complaint made by, or concerning a Treatment of persons arrested or detained person arrested or detained shall be recorded in the station diary.

(2) A person who is arrested or detained under this Part shall, during such times as may be determined by the prescribed officer, be allowed such visits as may be permitted having regard to matters of—

- (a) security; and
- (b) safety of persons.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (2), the spouse, partner, family member, religious counsellor, registered medical practitioner of his choice, and Attorney-at-law shall be permitted to visit a person referred to in that subsection.

(4) Where a person requests the visit of a registered medical practitioner of his choice, other than one provided by the State, the person shall be responsible for any expenses incurred.

(5) Particulars of each visit shall be recorded in station diary.

(6) A person who is arrested or detained—

(a) shall be allowed to receive articles of food and clothing or such other article as is necessary in the interest of his health or welfare; and

(b) shall not be allowed to receive any article which may endanger his health or the safety of his person, any officer or any other person.

(7) Where it appears to any member of the Joint Force or any person in charge of the supervision of individuals arrested, or detained, at a prison or police station pursuant to this Act that any such individual is ill or requires medical attention, whether or not the individual complains of illness, the member of the Joint Force or person in charge of the supervision (as the case may be) shall, without delay, take such steps as are necessary to cause the individual to be given medical attention.

Use of body-worn  
cameras

**22.** (1) A member of the Joint Force shall, as far as is possible having regard to available resources, use a body-worn camera when conducting operations within a Zone.

(2) The Chief of Defence Staff and the Commissioner of Police shall establish and review the protocols and procedures for the use of body-worn cameras in Zones and, notwithstanding the generality of the foregoing, the protocols and procedures may provide for—

- (a) the circumstances in which body-worn cameras may be used within the Zone;
- (b) the categories of persons who may access the data collected and in what circumstances;
- (c) the use of the data collected;
- (d) when body-worn cameras may be activated or deactivated;
- (e) the circumstances in which a member of the Joint Force will be required to inform a member of the public that persons are being recorded; and
- (f) how the members of the Joint Force document time and reason for deactivating body-worn cameras.

**23.** Weapons including the ballistic signature and ammunition assigned to members of the Joint Force shall be registered with the Trinidad and Tobago Forensic Science Center prior to the conduct of operations within the Zone, unless the Chief of Defence Staff or the Commissioner of Police determine otherwise.

**24.** (1) A member of the Joint Force may require a person within a Zone whose identity is unknown to the member to disclose his full and correct name including any alias and his full and correct address where the member has reasonable cause to suspect that the person is in the course of committing, has committed or is about to commit an offence or can assist in the investigation of an offence.

(2) A person within a Zone who is requested by a member of the Joint Force to disclose his identity under subsection (1) shall not, without reasonable excuse, fail or refuse to comply with the request.

(3) A person shall not, without reasonable excuse, in response to a request made by a member of the Joint Force under subsection (1)—

- (a) give a name that is false in a material particular; or
- (b) give an address other than the person's full and correct address.

(4) A person who contravenes this section commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of twenty thousand dollars.

#### PART V—SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION COMMITTEE

Establishment of  
Social Intervention  
Committee

**25.** (1) For the purpose of this Act, the Prime Minister in Council shall, within five working days of the declaration of a Zone, establish a committee to be styled the "Social Transformation Committee".

Schedule

(2) The provisions of the Schedule shall apply to the Committee.

Functions of  
Committee

**26.** (1) The Committee shall—

- (a) assess conditions within the Zone, including the state of the physical infrastructure, health, environment, land tenure, housing and settlements;
- (b) identify the threats to sustainable developments of the communities within the Zone;
- (c) develop a sustainable development plan which will include addressing issues relating to health, the environment, social improvement, infrastructural development, education and economic development;

- (d) recommend social interventions within the Zone, including compulsory school attendance areas and local improvement and urban renewal initiatives; and
- (e) co-ordinate the implementation of social intervention programmes by the relevant public bodies.

(2) The Minister assigned responsibility for national security shall cause the terms of reference of the Committee to be prepared and transmitted to the Prime Minister for approval.

(3) In making recommendations under this section, the Committee shall take into account the basic needs of the communities within the Zone.

(4) The Committee shall pay particular attention to vulnerable persons who live, work and attend school in the Zone, including (but not limited to) children, the elderly and persons with disabilities.

#### PART VI—GENERAL

Regulations **27.** The Minister assigned responsibility for national security may make regulations to give effect to the purpose of this Act.

Review of Act **28.** (1) This Act shall be reviewed, from time to time, by a committee of both Houses of Parliament appointed for the purpose.

(2) The first such review shall be conducted not later than three years after the date of declaration of the first Zone.

#### SCHEDULE

(Section 25(2))

##### SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION COMMITTEE

Constitution of Committee **1.** The Committee shall be comprised of at least ten persons selected from among the following:

- (a) the Minister assigned responsibility for national security or his nominee, who shall be the Chairman of the Committee;

- (b) the Member of Parliament of the constituency within which the Zone is, or if the Zone is located in two or more constituencies, the Members of Parliament of the constituencies or their nominees;
- (c) the Mayor or his nominee of the Borough or Chairman or his nominee of the Regional Corporation within which the Zone is located;
- (d) the Chief of Defence Staff or his nominee;
- (e) the Commissioner of Police or his nominee who shall be a police officer from the First Division;
- (f) an Attorney-at-law of not less than seven years standing;
- (g) a representative of the Ministry responsible for social security;
- (h) a representative of the Ministry responsible for national security;
- (i) a representative of the Ministry responsible for health;
- (j) a representative of the Ministry responsible for economic growth;
- (k) the director of the Town and Country Planning Division, or his nominee;
- (l) the Chief Medical Officer or his nominee who shall be a registered medical practitioner;
- (m) a representative of the Ministry responsible for social development;
- (n) a representative of the Ministry responsible for national works and infrastructure;
- (o) a representative of the Land Settlement Agency;
- (p) a representative of the Ministry responsible for public utilities;
- (q) a representative of the Ministry responsible for education;
- (r) a person who the Minister is satisfied is a representative of a *bona fide* community group active in the Zone;
- (s) a person who the Minister is satisfied lives or works in the Zone;
- (t) any other person who, or agency that, in the opinion of the Minister, can assist with the work of the Committee;

- (u) a representative of the Children’s Authority of Trinidad and Tobago;
- (v) a member of the Joint Force, trained in sensitivity to matters relating to gender based violence;
- (w) a mental health professional; and
- (x) a representative of the National Centre for Persons with Disabilities.

2. (1) The members of the Committee shall be appointed by the <sup>Appointment</sup> Prime Minister by instrument in writing.

(2) A member of the Committee shall, subject to the provisions of this Schedule, hold office for such period as the Prime Minister may specify in the instrument of appointment.

(3) A member of the Committee is eligible for re-appointment.

3. (1) The Prime Minister shall appoint one of the members of <sup>Chairman and Deputy Chairman</sup> the Committee to be the Deputy Chairman of the Committee.

(2) The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Committee and if the Chairman is absent from a meeting, the Deputy Chairman shall preside.

(3) In the absence of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, the members of the Committee present and constituting a quorum shall elect one of their members to chair that meeting.

4. The names of the members of the Committee as <sup>Publication of membership</sup> first constituted and every change in the membership of the Committee shall be published in the *Gazette*.

5. (1) The Committee shall meet at such intervals as may be <sup>Procedure and meetings</sup> necessary or expedient for the transaction of its business; and the meetings shall be held at the places and times and on the days as the Committee may determine.

(2) The Chairman—

- (a) may call a special meeting of the Committee at any time; and
- (b) shall call a special meeting within seven days of the receipt of a written request for that purpose addressed to the Chairman by any three members of the Committee.

(3) The quorum for meetings of the Committee shall be five members.

(4) Decisions of the Committee shall be by a majority of the members present and voting, however, in addition to an original vote, the Chairman, Deputy Chairman or other member presiding at a meeting shall have an original and a casting vote in any case in which the voting is equal.

(5) The minutes of each meeting of the Committee shall be kept in proper form and shall be confirmed by the Chairman as soon as practicable at a subsequent meeting.

(6) The validity of the proceedings of the Committee shall not be affected by a vacancy among the members of the Committee or a defect in the appointment of a member of the Committee.

(7) Subject to this Schedule, the Committee may regulate its own proceedings.

Invites to meetings 6. (1) The Committee may invite any person to attend any meeting of the Committee for the purpose of assisting the Committee in respect of any matter under consideration.

(2) A person invited under subparagraph (1) may take part in the deliberations of the Committee on the matter, but is not entitled to vote at any meeting of the Committee.

Disclosure of interest 7. (1) A member who is in any way, directly or indirectly interested in a contract made or proposed to be made by the Committee, in any other matter which falls to be considered by the Committee, shall—

(a) as soon as possible after the relevant facts have come to his knowledge, disclose or cause to be disclosed the nature of his interest at a meeting of the Committee; and

(b) not be present during the deliberation of the Committee on the matter or take part in the decision of the Committee in relation to the matter under discussion.

(2) The disclosure shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

(3) The member shall not—

(a) in the case of a contract, take part in any deliberation or decision of the Committee with respect to the contract; and

(b) in the case of any other matter, take part in any deliberation or decision of the Committee with respect to the matter, if the Committee decides that the interest in question might affect prejudicially the member's consideration or the matter.



House has been supported by the votes of not less than three-fifths of all the members of the House, that is to say, by the votes of      members of the House.

*Clerk of the House*

I confirm the above.

*Speaker*

Passed in the Senate this      day of      , 2026.

*Clerk of the Senate*

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that this Act is one the Bill for which has been passed by the Senate and at the final vote thereon in the Senate has been supported by the votes of not less than three-fifths of all the members of the Senate, that is to say, by the votes of      Senators.

*Clerk of the Senate*

I confirm the above.

*President of the Senate*

No. 2 of 2026

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FIRST SESSION  
**THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT**  
REPUBLIC OF  
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

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**BILL**

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AN ACT to provide for special measures  
for upholding and preserving the rule  
of law, public order, citizen security  
and public safety within certain geo-  
graphically defined areas of Trinidad  
and Tobago, and for other related  
matters

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Received and read the

First time .....

Second time .....

Third time .....

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