MONTSERRAT

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH INCORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL

No. 2 of 2025

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Seventh-day Adventist Church Incorporation (Amendment) Bill, 2025

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I ASSENT

Governor

DATE:

MONTSERRAT

No. 2 of 2025

A BILL FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH INCORPORATION ACT (CAP. 294).

BE IT ENACTED by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Montserrat, and by the Authority of the same as follows:—

1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the Seventh-day Adventist Church Incorporation (Amendment) Act, 2025.

2. Interpretation

In this Act, "**principal Act**" means the Seventh-day Adventist Church Incorporation Act (Cap. 294).

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3. Preamble amended

The preamble of the principal Act is deleted and the following is substituted—

"WHEREAS there has been constituted a Conference known as the Leeward Islands Conference of Seventh-day Adventists on 28 May,1927 consisting of the Seventh-day Adventist Churches in Antigua, St. Christopher-Nevis, Dominica, Montserrat, the Virgin Islands and in the French Islands adjoining, which have been officially organised and accepted into fellowship by vote of the delegates assembled in session;

AND WHEREAS there has been constituted a Mission known as the Seventh-day Adventists Church South Leeward Mission on 6 March,2011 consisting of the Seventh-day Adventist Churches in Antigua and Barbuda, Montserrat and Saint Kitts and Nevis, which have been officially organised and accepted into fellowship by vote of the delegates assembled in session;

AND WHEREAS there has been constituted a Conference known as the South Leeward Conference of Seventh-day Adventists on the 1 May, 2019 consisting of the Seventh-day Adventist Churches in Antigua and Barbuda, Montserrat and St Kitts and Nevis, which have been officially organised and accepted into fellowship by vote of the delegates assembled in session, and in accordance with the constitution of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that a Board of Trustees of the South Leeward Conference of Seventh-

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day Adventists in Montserrat should be incorporated and should have power to hold lands and other property in trust for the said Church".

4. Section 1A inserted

The principal Act is amended by inserting the following as section 1A—

"1A. Interpretation

In this Act, "Board of Trustees" means the Board of Trustees of the South Leeward Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.".

5. Section 2 amended

Section 2 of the principal Act is deleted and the following is substituted—

"2. Constitution of Board of Trustees

- (1) The Board of Trustees is hereby established as a body corporate.
- (2) The Board of Trustees consists of—
 - (a) the President of the South Leeward Conference of Seventh-day Adventists;
 - (b) the Secretary of the South Leeward Conference of Seventh-day Adventists;
 - (c) the Treasurer of the South Leeward Conference of Seventh-day Adventists; and
 - (d) one other person appointed in accordance with the Constitution of the South Leeward Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

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- (3) The Board of Trustees has perpetual succession and is capable of suing and being sued in a court in Montserrat.
- (4) The Board of Trustees and shall have and use a common seal which may be altered by the South Leeward Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.".

6. Section 3 amended

Section 3 of the principal Act is deleted and the following is substituted—

"3. Vesting of property and powers of the Board of Trustees

(1) There shall be vested in the Board of Trustees all lands or other property, real or personal of any kind whatsoever acquired or held by or for the benefit of the Seventhday Adventist Church.

(2) Subject to—

- (a) the rules, regulations and control of the South Leeward Conference of Seventh-day Adventists; and
- (b) the performance of any trust upon which any lands or other property may have been held or acquired,

the Board of Trustees has full power to acquire for the Seventh-day Adventist Church by purchase, exchange, demise, gift, devise or otherwise, lands or other property, real or personal of any kind whatsoever in perpetuity or for a life or

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lives or for any term of years or upon any other terms, conditions or limitations.".

7. Section 4 amended

Section 4 of the principal Act is amended by deleting "East Caribbean Conference of Seventh-day Adventist Church" and substituting "South Leeward Conference of Seventh-day Adventists".

8. Section 4A inserted

The Governor acting on the advice of Cabinet may by Order amend the preamble of the principal Act.

9. Section 6 inserted

The principal Act is amended by inserting the following as section 6—

"6. Validation of acts

Any act purportedly performed by the Board of Trustees or the Board of Trustees of the Seventh-day Adventists Church South Leeward Mission under section 3 or 4 of this Act, which would have been validly performed by the Board of Trustees of the Leeward Islands Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is validated."

SPEAKER

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Passed by the Legislative Assembly this day of 2025.

CLERK OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY