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GENERAL NOTICES • ALGEMENE KENNISGEWINGS

PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**NOTICE 317 OF 2018****MR MCHAEAL WATERS****NOTICE OF INTENTION TO INTRODUCE THE ELECTORAL AMENDMENT BILL, 2018, A PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL, INTO PARLIAMENT AND INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT THEREON**

Mr Michael Waters, MP, acting in accordance with section 73(2) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, intends to introduce the Electoral Amendment Bill, 2018 in Parliament during the second quarter of 2018/19. An explanatory summary of the Bill is hereby published in accordance with Rule 276(1)(c) of the Rules of the National Assembly (9th Edition).

With the right to vote forming the foundation for all democratic political process in South Africa, it is imperative that registration and voting mechanisms be as broad and inclusive as possible. Currently, however, the mechanisms in place for overseas based voters are falling short of this standard.

The draft Bill will provide for:

- All South African citizens to be permitted to register to vote on production of a valid ID document only.
- The day designated for overseas casting of votes to necessarily fall on a weekend.
- Voting stations overseas to not be limited to consulates, embassies or high commissions, allowing for more remote voters to be able to vote without travelling great distances.
- Vote counting procedures to properly account for differences in time zones when considering deadlines.
- Voters ordinarily based overseas to be provided with provincial ballots as well as national ballots.

The Bill may, after introduction, be obtained from:

The Democratic Alliance
PO Box 15, Cape Town, 8000
Attention: Mr Alex Tarr / Mr Louw Nel
Telephone: 021 403 8641 / 021 403 3567
Facsimile: 021 466 8394
E-mail: alext@da.org.za / louwn@da.org.za

Interested parties and institutions are invited to submit written representations on the proposed content of the draft bill to the Speaker of the National Assembly within 30 days of the publication of this notice. Representations can be delivered to the Speaker, New Assembly Building, Parliament Street, Cape Town; mailed to the Speaker, P O Box 15, Cape Town 8000 or e-mailed to mbete@parliament.gov.za and copied to alext@da.org.za.

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Anna-Marie du Toit (012) 748-6292 (Anna-Marie.DuToit@gpw.gov.za) and

Siraj Rizvi (012) 748-6380 (Siraj.Rizvi@gpw.gov.za)

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