

Minor Council Passes Emergency Law

22nd March, 2020 —His Serenity the Rector has proposed R002-012, the Emergency Act 2020, to the Minor Council. The Minor Council has passed the bill unanimously, with the bill taking effect and referred to the April 2020 Ballot for full approval.

The text of R002-012 is included in the following pages.

Minor Council Declares State of Emergency

22nd March, 2020 —The Minor Council has declared a State of Emergency in Our Serene Republic, due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Under R002-012, this allows the College of Magistrates to implement emergency procedures for public safety, though there are currently no such procedures in place.

Clark Named as Judge

4th April, 2020 —His Honour Justice Nanatovich has named former Justice Anthony R. Clark as a judge on the Council of First Instance.

Sixth Ballot Concluded

10th April, 2020 —His Serenity the Rector hereby gives notice that the sixth Ballot has successfully concluded, with the following results:

- The **turnout** of the Ballot was **83.3%**.
- The first item, **R002-012** a.k.a. the Emergency Act 2020, was **passed with 80%, or 4 votes, in favour**.
- The second item, **O002-013** a.k.a. the Emergency Local Ordinance 2020, was **passed with 80%, or 4 votes, in favour**.
- The third item, **P002-014** a.k.a. the Fundamental Rights and Freedoms Act 2020, was **passed unanimously**.
- The fourth item, **P002-015** a.k.a. the Incorporation Act 2020, was **passed unanimously**.
- The fifth item, **P002-016** a.k.a. Ballot Act 2020 (Magisterial Elections), was **passed unanimously**.

The texts of these items are included in the following pages.

Minor Council and Rector Pass Constitutional Amendment

19th April, 2020 —The Minor Council has unanimously passed the Fundamental Rights and Freedoms Act 2020, and His Serenity the Rector has given it his full support. Despite the great hurdles in passing a constitutional amendment, its unanimous support has guaranteed that the Act passes, amending the Constitution.

The text of P002-014 is included in the following pages.

R002-012

Be it enacted by the Grand Forum of All Citizens, as follows—

MINOR COUNCIL REFERRAL 002-012

EMERGENCY ACT 2020

An Act to establish a mechanism for governmental response to emergency situations.

CHAPTER I

ON THE DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

Section A: Declaration

1. The Chief Magistrate may ask the Minor Council to declare a State of Emergency.
2. A State of Emergency may only be declared in the event of:
 - (a) A natural disaster;
 - (b) A health epidemic;
 - (c) Widespread violence;
 - (d) War; or
 - (e) Any other threat to the people or Our Serene Republic.
3. Any such declaration must include a fixed time limit, not exceeding six Calendar Months, after which any State of Emergency is to end. This does not preclude a new State of Emergency being declared.

CHAPTER II

ON THE MEASURES ABLE TO BE TAKEN

Section A: On the Emergency Fund

1. There is to be an Emergency Fund, from which the Magistracies may spend during a State of Emergency, on managing the emergency.

Section B: Measures for provision of essential services

1. Essential services are defined here as:
 - (a) Food;
 - (b) Water;
 - (c) Power;
 - (d) Information relevant to safety and security;
 - (e) Medicines;
 - (f) Anything that may prove necessary to protect against the relevant threat.

2. The relevant Magistracy may, for the duration of a State of Emergency, assume control over the supply of essential services, for the purpose of:
 - (a) Protecting the supply against hoarding;
 - (b) Protecting consumers against price gouging; or
 - (c) Rationing supply.
3. The relevant Magistracy may subsidise producers in order to ensure supply.

Section C: Measures for protection of the people

1. The relevant magistracy may, for the duration of a State of Emergency, control the movement of the people on the following ways:
 - (a) Curfew;
 - (b) Quarantine;
 - (c) Mandatory self-isolation;
 - (d) Closing external borders; or
 - (e) Closing borders between Local Communities.

CHAPTER III ON THE PROTECTION OF RIGHTS

Section A: Commitment to Rights

1. Our Serene Republic commits itself to the protection of rights, and as such, is to exercise only the minimum measures necessary for the protection of the people.
2. Our Serene Republic commits itself to the principles of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and as such, in the exercise of these measures, is not to derogate those rights as specified in Article 4 of the Covenant, under any circumstances.

O002-013

Be it permitted by the Grand Forum of All Citizens, for Local Authorities to bring into effect as follows—

LOCAL ORDINANCE 002-013

EMERGENCY LOCAL ORDINANCE 2020

A Local Ordinance to establish a mechanism for governmental response to emergency situations.

CHAPTER I ON THE DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

Section A: Declaration

1. The Local Executive may ask the Minor Council to declare a State of Emergency for Our Local Community.
2. A State of Emergency may only be declared in the event of:
 - (a) A natural disaster;
 - (b) A health epidemic;
 - (c) Widespread violence;
 - (d) War; or
 - (e) Any other threat to the people or Our Serene Republic.
3. Any such declaration must include a fixed time limit, not exceeding six Calendar Months, after which any State of Emergency is to end. This does not preclude a new State of Emergency being declared.

CHAPTER II ON THE MEASURES ABLE TO BE TAKEN

Section A: When measures may be taken

1. In this Chapter, 'State of Emergency' may mean a national State of Emergency as declared under R001-012, or a State of Emergency for Our Local Community.

Section B: On the Emergency Fund

1. The Local Authorities may spend from the Emergency Fund, to manage the Emergency.

Section C: Measures for provision of essential services

1. Essential services are defined here as:
 - (a) Food;
 - (b) Water;
 - (c) Power;
 - (d) Information relevant to safety and security;
 - (e) Medicines;
 - (f) Anything that may prove necessary to protect against the relevant threat.
2. The Local Authority may, for the duration of a State of Emergency, assume control over the supply of essential services, for the purpose of:
 - (a) Protecting the supply against hoarding;
 - (b) Protecting consumers against price gouging; or
 - (c) Rationing supply.
3. The Local Authority may subsidise producers in order to ensure supply.

Section D: Measures for protection of the people

1. The Local Authority may, for the duration of a State of Emergency, control the movement of the people on the following ways:
 - (a) Curfew;
 - (b) Quarantine;
 - (c) Mandatory self-isolation;
 - (d) Closing external borders; or
 - (e) Closing borders between Our Local Community and other Local Communities.

P002-014

Be it enacted by the Grand Forum of All Citizens, as follows—

PROPOSITION 002-014

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS ACT 2020

An Act to amend the Constitution to strengthen the Fundamental Rights and Freedoms of the people.

Section A: Amendments to the Constitution

1. Article II.1 of the Constitution is amended to read as follows:

“Our Serene Republic affirms the principles of the International Bill of Human Rights. The Bill is to be binding in law.”

The International Bill of Human Rights includes the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, so all previously established rights are protected.
2. Article II is to have a new item inserted, following II.1, reading as follows:

“Our Serene Republic affirms the principles of the European Convention of Human Rights. All sections affirming Fundamental Rights and Freedoms are to be binding in law, but not those sections binding Our Serene Republic to the European Court of Human Rights.”

The following items are to be renumbered accordingly.
3. Article II is to have a new item inserted, following II.2, reading as follows:

“In the event that these international conventions clash, the interpretation most strongly protecting the Fundamental Rights and Freedoms of the person is to be preferred.”

The following items are to be renumbered accordingly.
4. Article II.4 (formerly II.2) is to be amended to read as follows:

“The lack of enumeration of any particular Rights in these international conventions is not to be construed to deny the people any other Rights.”

P002-015

Be it enacted by the Grand Forum of All Citizens, as follows—

PROPOSITION 002-015

INCORPORATION ACT 2020

An Act to establish a process for the establishment of corporations by means other than a Charter of Incorporation.

CHAPTER I
ON INCORPORATION

Section A: Articles of Incorporation

1. A company is formed on the signing of Articles of Incorporation.
2. The articles of incorporation for a prospective company must at minimum specify:
 - (a) the name of the company;
 - (b) any alternative trading name of the company;
 - (c) details of the company's ownership; and
 - (d) that the company is to be a company under the law of Our Serene Republic.
3. The 'details of the corporation's ownership' means details of:
 - (a) if the company is owned by a single party, the name of the party;
 - (b) if the company is owned by multiple parties;
 - (c) the total number of shares in the company that will initially exist; or
 - (d) for each class of shares, the rights of those shares' bearers and the total number of shares of that class;
 - (e) with respect to each proposed initial shareholder, their name; the number and class of shares to be taken by them on formation of the company.
4. A company may amend its Articles of Incorporation at any time, by means specified in those articles.
5. A corporation is dissolved if its Articles of Incorporation are annulled:
 - (a) by vote of the shareholders; or
 - (b) on the order of a competent court.

Section B: Names of companies

1. A company may not use a name, either its official name or an alternative trading name, that is so similar to an existing Beaconite company so as to cause ambiguity.
2. A company may not use a name, either its official name or an alternative trading name, that implies that the company is:
 - (a) A governmental institution;
 - (b) Owned by Our Serene Republic; or
 - (c) Otherwise representative of Our Serene Republic.

CHAPTER II

ON THE REGISTRATION OF CORPORATIONS

Section A: Registration with Inland Revenue

1. Upon the signing of Articles of Incorporation, a company must deliver its Articles of Incorporation to the Inland Revenue Service.
2. Upon the amendment of Articles of Incorporation, a company must deliver the amendment to the Inland Revenue Service.
3. Any person who fails their duties under II.A.1 or II.A.2 commits an offence.

Section B: Corporate Administration Tax

1. There is to be a tax known as the Corporate Administration Tax, paid into the Grand General Fund.
2. A company is liable to pay this tax if:
 - (a) It chooses to pay it, voluntarily.
3. The amount a company owes is:
 - (a) To be determined by the company itself, by its own internal processes.

P002-016

Be it enacted by the Grand Forum of All Citizens, as follows—

PROPOSITION 002-016

BALLOT ACT 2020 (MAGISTERIAL ELECTIONS)

An Act to amend the Ballot Act 2018 to clarify the election of Magistrates, in line with the system used in practice.

Section A: Amendments to the Ballot Act 2018

1. R000-001 Chapter II, Section C, Article 1 is to be amended to read as follows:

"The election of a Magistrate or an Undermagistrate elected by the Grand Forum is to occur following the vacation of the relevant Office, or if the Office is vacant, following the proposal for an election."
2. A new article is to be inserted, following II.C.1, reading as follows:

"If there are no candidates for the election, the election does not occur and the Office remains vacant until candidates are nominated."

The following articles are to be renumbered accordingly.