Fifth Session Twelfth Parliament Republic of Trinidad and Tobago



REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Act No. 18 of 2024

[L.S.]

An Act to make provisions of a financial nature and other related matters

[Assented to 6th December, 2024]

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

- 1. This Act may be cited as the Finance Act, 2024. Short title
- **2.** The Registration of Clubs Act is amended by Chap. 21:01 repealing section 9B and substituting the following amended section:

"Waiver of certain liabilities

- 9B. (1) Notwithstanding any written law to the contrary, there shall be a waiver of the following liabilities:
 - (a) interest on an outstanding tax due and payable for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2023, where the tax is paid prior to or during the prescribed period;
 - (b) outstanding interest charged on an outstanding tax due and payable for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2023, where the tax is paid prior to or during the prescribed period;
 - (c) all penalties due and payable on or in respect of any tax or outstanding tax or interest for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2023, where the tax is paid prior to or during the prescribed period;
 - (d) all penalties on any outstanding return for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2023, where the return is filed prior to or during the prescribed period; and
 - (e) all penalties with respect to any return for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2023 and filed prior to 1st October, 2024, where such penalties have not been paid.

- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, the waiver granted under subsection (1) shall not—
 - (a) affect a liability to a tax which is due and payable under this Act; and
 - (b) apply to any interest or penalty paid prior to 1st October, 2024.
- (3) Where a tax or return remains outstanding after the end of the prescribed period, the interest and other penalties which would have been payable on the outstanding tax or return shall be revived and become payable as if the waiver in subsection (1) had not been granted.
- (4) For the purposes of this section, "prescribed period" means the period commencing on 1st October, 2024 and ending on 31st December, 2024.".
- (5) The Minister with responsibility for finance may by Order, prescribe a later date to extend the prescribed period.".
- **3.** The National Insurance Act is amended by Chap. 32:01 repealing section 39C and substituting the following amended section:

"Waiver of penalty and interest

- 39C. (1) Notwithstanding any written law to the contrary, there is a waiver of all penalties and interest due and payable under section 39B in respect of—
 - (a) any contribution paid by an employer under this Act prior to 1st October, 2024; and
 - (b) any contribution outstanding as at 30th September, 2024, by

- an employer under this Act, where the contribution is paid during the period 1st October, 2024 to 31st December, 2024.
- (2) The waiver under subsection (1) applies to an employer who was registered with the Board prior to 1st October, 2024.
- (3) The waiver under subsection (1) does not affect the obligation of an employer to pay contributions in accordance with section 38.
- (4) Where an employer fails to pay his outstanding contributions by 31st December, 2024, the penalties and interest which would have been payable in respect of the failure to pay the contributions, shall be revived and become payable as if the waiver under subsection (1) had not been granted.
- (5) The Minister with responsibility for finance may by Order, prescribe a later date for the payment of contributions under subsection (1).".

Chap. 75:01 amended

4. The Income Tax Act is amended by repealing section 103A and substituting the following section:

"Waiver of certain liabilities

- 103A. (1) Notwithstanding any written law to the contrary, there shall be a waiver of the following liabilities:
 - (a) interest on an outstanding tax due and payable for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2023, where the tax is paid prior to or during the prescribed period;

- (b) outstanding interest charged on an outstanding tax due and payable for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2023, where the tax is paid prior to or during the prescribed period;
- (c) a penalty due and payable on or in respect of a tax or outstanding tax or interest for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2023, where the tax is paid prior to or during the prescribed period;
- (d) a penalty on an outstanding return for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2023, where the return is filed prior to or during the prescribed period; and
- (e) a penalty with respect to a return for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2023 and filed prior to 1st October, 2024, where such penalties have not been paid.
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, the waiver granted under subsection (1) shall not—
 - (a) affect a liability to a tax which is due and payable under this Act: and
 - (b) apply to any interest or penalty paid prior to 1st October, 2024.

- (3) Where a tax or return remains outstanding after the end of the prescribed period, the interest and penalty which would have been payable on the outstanding tax or return, shall be revived and become payable as if the waiver in subsection (1) had not been granted.
- (4) For the purposes of this section, "prescribed period" means the period commencing on 1st October, 2024 and ending on 31st December, 2024.
- (5) The Minister with responsibility for finance may by Order, prescribe a later date to extend the prescribed period.".

Chap. 75:06 amended

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5. The Value Added Tax Act is amended by repealing section 54A and substituting the following section:

"Waiver of certain liabilities

- 54A. (1) Notwithstanding any written law to the contrary, there shall be a waiver of the following liabilities:
 - (a) interest on an outstanding tax due and payable for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2023, where the tax is paid prior to or during the prescribed period;
 - (b) outstanding interest charged on an outstanding tax due and payable for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2023, where the tax is paid prior to or during the prescribed period;
 - (c) a penalty due and payable on or in respect of a tax or outstanding tax or interest for

- the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2023, where the tax is paid prior to or during the prescribed period;
- (d) a penalty on an outstanding return for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2023, where the return is filed prior to or during the prescribed period; and
- (e) a penalty with respect to a return for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2023 and filed prior to 1st October, 2024, where such penalties have not been paid.
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, the waiver granted under subsection (1) shall not—
 - (a) affect a liability to a tax which is due and payable under this Act; and
 - (b) apply to any interest or penalty paid prior to 1st October, 2024.
- (3) Where a tax or return remains outstanding after the end of the prescribed period, the interest and penalty which would have been payable on the outstanding tax or return shall be revived and become payable as if the waiver in subsection (1) had not been granted.
- (4) For the purposes of this section, "prescribed period" means the period commencing on 1st October, 2024 and ending on 31st December, 2024.

(5) The Minister with responsibility for finance may by Order, prescribe a later date to extend the prescribed period.".

Chap. 76:01 amended

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6. The Stamp Duty Act is amended by repealing section 3A and substituting the following section:

"Waiver of certain liabilities 3A. (1) Notwithstanding any written law to the contrary, there shall be a waiver of the following liabilities:

- (a) interest on an outstanding tax due and payable for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2023, where the tax is paid prior to or during the prescribed period;
- (b) outstanding interest charged on an outstanding tax due and payable for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2023, where the tax is paid prior to or during the prescribed period;
- (c) a penalty due and payable on or in respect of a tax or outstanding tax or interest for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2023, where the tax is paid prior to or during the prescribed period;
- (d) a penalty on any outstanding return for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2023, where the return is filed prior to or during the prescribed period; and

- (e) a penalty with respect to a return for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2023 and filed prior to 1st October, 2024, where such penalties have not been paid.
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, the waiver granted under subsection (1) shall not—
 - (a) affect a liability to a tax which is due and payable under this Act; and
 - (b) apply to any interest or penalty paid prior to 1st October, 2024.
- (3) Where a tax or return remains outstanding after the end of the prescribed period, the interest and other penalties which would have been payable on the outstanding tax or return shall be revived and become payable as if the waiver in subsection (1) had not been granted.
- (4) For the purposes of this section, "prescribed period" means the period commencing on 1st October, 2024 and ending on 31st December, 2024.
- (5) The Minister with responsibility for finance may by Order, prescribe a later date to extend the prescribed period.".
- 7. The Property Tax Act is amended in section 54 by Chap. 76:04 repealing subsections (2) to (6) and substituting the amended following subsections:
 - "(2) Notwithstanding any written law to the contrary, there shall be, in respect of the taxes referred to in subsection (1), a waiver of the following liabilities:
 - (a) interest on an outstanding tax due and

- payable for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2024, where the tax is paid prior to or during the prescribed period;
- (b) outstanding interest charged on an outstanding tax due and payable for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2024, where the tax is paid prior to or during the prescribed period;
- (c) a penalty due and payable on or in respect of a tax or outstanding tax or interest for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2024, where the tax is paid prior to or during the prescribed period;
- (d) a penalty on an outstanding return for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2024, where the return is filed prior to or during the prescribed period; and
- (e) a penalty with respect to a return for the years up to and including the year ending 31st December, 2024 and filed prior to 1st October, 2024, where such penalty has not been paid.
- (3) For the avoidance of doubt, the waiver granted under subsection (2) shall not
 - (a) affect a liability to a tax which is due and payable under this Act; and
 - (b) apply to any interest or penalty paid prior to 1st October, 2024.
- (4) Where a tax or return remains outstanding after the end of the prescribed period, the interest and other penalty which would have been payable on the outstanding tax or return, shall be revived and become payable as if the waiver in subsection (2) had not been granted.

- (5) For the purposes of this section, "prescribed period" means the period commencing on 1st October, 2024 and ending on 31st December, 2024.
- (6) The Minister with responsibility for finance may by Order, prescribe a later date to extend the prescribed period.".
- **8.** This Act is deemed to have come into force on Commencement 1st October, 2024.

Passed in the House of Representatives this 18th day of November, 2024.

Clerk of the House

Passed in the Senate this 29th day of November, 2024.

Acting Clerk of the Senate