# First Session Thirteenth Parliament Republic of Trinidad and Tobago



## REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

# Act No. 2 of 2025

[L.S.]

An Act to amend the Children's Life Fund Act, Chap. 29:01

[Assented to 11th July, 2025]

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

- 1. This Act may be cited as the Children's Life Fund Short title (Amendment) Act, 2025.
- 2. In this Act, "the Act" means the Children's Life  $_{\hbox{\scriptsize Chap. 29:01}}$  Fund Act.

Section 3 amended

- **2A.** Section 3 of the Act is amended by inserting after the definition of "income", the following definition:
  - ""life limiting illness" means an illness or condition listed in Schedule 3".

Section 4 amended

- **3.** Section 4(2) of the Act is amended by repealing paragraph (b) and substituting the following paragraph:
  - "(b) facilitate the provision of specialist medical treatment to children suffering from life limiting illnesses;".

Section 9 amended

**4.** Section 9(f) of the Act is amended by inserting after the word "approve" the words "or reject".

Section 18 amended

- **4A.** Section 18(2) of the Act is amended by repealing paragraph (c) and substituting the following paragraph:
  - "(c) the accredited health care institution capable of providing the relevant care and beneficial outcomes consistent with international best practices, whether that care is provided-
    - (i) at a foreign institution; or
    - (ii) by foreign medical specialists from a foreign institution in a local private or public hospital, where it is feasible and more economically prudent to do so;".

Section 19 amended

**5.** Section 19(e) of the Act is amended by deleting the words "life-threatening illness" and substituting the words "life limiting illness".

- **5A.** Section 21 of the Act is amended by inserting after Section 21 subsection (4), the following subsections:
  - "(5) Notwithstanding subsection (4), the Minister on the recommendation of the Board, may approve a grant not exceeding one million, five hundred thousand dollars in exceptional circumstances.
  - (6) The Minister may by Order, subject to negative resolution of Parliament amend the quantum as set out in subsections (4) and (5).".
- **6.** The Act is amended by inserting after section 21, Sections 21A and 21B the following sections:

"Minister may review decision of the Board

- 21A. (1) Where the Board rejects an application for a grant under this Act, the Chief Executive Officer shall, within three days thereof, submit the decision of the Board together with its reasons and all supporting documents to the Minister, for his review.
- (2) The Minister may, after reviewing the decision of the Board, affirm, annul or vary that decision.
- (3) The Minister shall notify the Board of his decision within seven days.

Minister may grant approval in exceptional circumstances

- 21B. (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Minister may in urgent or exceptional circumstances, consider and treat with an application for a grant if the Minister is satisfied that—
  - (a) the Board is unable to meet for any reason or otherwise perform its functions in a timely manner; or

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- (b) action is required in the public interest in furtherance of the purposes of this Act.
- (2) Where the Minister acts pursuant to subsection (1), he shall notify—
  - (a) the Board; or
  - (b) where the Board is not constituted, the Chief Executive Officer,

of the decision taken and the reasons for doing so, within seven days of that decision.".

**7.** The Act is amended by inserting after Schedule 2, the following Schedule:

Schedule inserted

#### "SCHEDULE 3

#### LIFE LIMITING ILLNESSES OR CONDITIONS

#### Oncology:

Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia

Acute Myeloid Leukaemia

Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia

Mature B cell Lymphoma

Hodgkin's Lymphoma

Neuroblastoma

Osteosarcoma

Medulloblastoma

Retinoblastoma

Soft tissue sarcoma

Wilms tumour

#### **Cardiology:**

Hypoplastic left heart

All single ventricle diseases

Complex heart disease

Tetralogy of Fallot

#### Paediatric surgery:

Complex anorectal and genitourinary anomalies

Pancreatic tumours

Hepatic tumours

Liver failure

# Nephrology:

End-stage renal disease or advanced chronic kidney disease

#### **Haematology**:

Severe Aplastic Anaemia

Beta thalassemia

Sickle cell disease

Inherited bone marrow failure syndromes

## Endocrinology:

Congenital Hyperinsulinemia

Pheochromocytoma".

Passed in the House of Representatives this 13th day of June, 2025.

Clerk of the House

Passed in the Senate this 23rd day of June , 2025.

Acting Clerk of the Senate

Senate amendments were agreed to by the House of Representatives this 27th day of June, 2025.

Clerk of the House