

**A BILL
entitled**

AN ACT to amend the General Elections Act, Cap. 354.

BE IT ENACTED by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the House of Representatives, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:-

1. The short title of this Act is the General Elections (Amendment) Act, 2026 and this Act shall be read and construed as one with the General Elections Act, hereinafter referred to as the "principal Act".

Short title.

Cap. 354.
2. Article 51 of the principal Act shall be amended as follows:

Amendment
of article 51
of the
principal
Act.

 - (a) in sub-article (1), paragraph (a) thereof, immediately after the words "delivered to one of the Commissioners at the Electoral Office" there shall be added the words "together with the form set out in Schedule 9A to this Act duly completed by the candidate";
 - (b) in sub-article (1), paragraph (b) thereof, immediately after the words "within the period specified in the notice referred to in article 45" there shall be added the words "and shall include the completion and electronic submission of the form set out in Schedule 9A to this Act";
 - (c) in sub-article (3) thereof immediately after the words "that the nomination" there shall be added the words "or the Candidate Information Form".
3. Immediately after article 51 of the principal Act there shall be added the following new article 51A:

Addition of
article 51A
to the
principal
Act.

" 51A. (1) Every candidate shall, at the time of submitting their nomination under article 51(1), submit to the Commission the Candidate Information Form set out in Schedule 9A to this Act.

 - (2) The Candidate Information Form shall:
 - (a) where a candidate is nominated in writing under article 51(1)(a), be signed by the candidate himself, (or, in the event of his absence from these Islands, by a duly appointed representative), certifying that the information provided is true, complete, and accurate to the best of the candidate's knowledge and belief, and be completed in writing and delivered to the Commission together with the nomination paper;
 - (b) where a candidate is nominated by electronic means under article 51(1)(b), be electronically signed by the candidate, certifying that the information provided is true, complete, and accurate to the best of the candidate's knowledge and belief, and be completed and submitted electronically through the website in the manner and form established by the Commission.

(3) No nomination shall be deemed valid unless the candidate has submitted the completed form set out in Schedule 9A to this Act in accordance with sub-article (1).

(4) Wherein any information in the Candidate Information Form is deemed missing or incomplete, the Commission shall immediately notify the candidate, who shall have five working days to provide the missing information, failing which the nomination shall be deemed invalid.

(5) The Commission shall, within five working days of the close of nominations, publish on its official website all information submitted by candidates in the Candidate Information Form, in a separate format from the list of nominations. The data obtained through the Candidate Information Form shall remain published and available to the public on the Commission's website for a period not longer than six months after the polling day."

Amendment
of article 112
of the
principal
Act.

4. In paragraph (a) of sub-article (1) of article 112, immediately after the words "destroys any nomination paper" there shall be added the words "or any Candidate Information Form" and immediately after the words "delivers to the Commissioner any nomination paper" there shall be added the words "or any Candidate Information Form".

Adds a new
Schedule to
the principal
Act.

5. Immediately after the Ninth Schedule to the principal Act there shall be added the following new Schedule:

"SCHEDULE 9A

(Article 51A)

Candidate Information Form

Name: _____ Political Party: _____

Residence Locality: _____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Educational Background

Highest level of education attained:

- ☐ Primary ☐ Secondary
☐ Sixth-Form ☐ Diploma
☐ Degree ☐ Postgraduate

Field of study:

Employment Information

Current Employment Status:

- ☐ Employed ☐ Retired
☐ Self-Employed ☐ Student
☐ Unemployed

Current Occupation or Job Title:

Political and Public Service Experience

Previous elected positions held:

Current public appointments held:

Declaration

I certify that the information provided in this form is true, complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that knowingly providing false or misleading information is an offence punishable by fine and may result in disqualification.

Date: ____/____/____ Signature: _____

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Objects and reasons

The objects and reasons of this Bill are to make provision for the enhancement of transparency in elections of Members of the House of Representatives by requiring candidates to provide biographical, educational, and professional information as part of the candidate nomination process. This information will be published by the Commission on its website in a searchable format, enabling voters to make more informed decisions about candidates standing for election. The Bill aligns Malta with best practices in EU member states.