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No. 18 of 2010

First Session Tenth Parliament Republic of
Trinidad and Tobago

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

BILL

AN ACT to repeal and replace the National
Ecclesiastical Council of Spiritual Baptist
Churches of Trinidad and Tobago and provide for
the Ecclesiastical Council of Spiritual Baptist
Churches of Trinidad and Tobago.

BILL

AN ACT to repeal and replace the National Ecclesiastical Council of Spiritual Baptist Churches of Trinidad and Tobago and provide for the Ecclesiastical Council of Spiritual Baptist Churches of Trinidad and Tobago.

[, 2010]

WHEREAS there is incorporated in Trinidad and Tobago ^{Preamble} a body known as “The National Ecclesiastical Council of Spiritual Baptist Churches of Trinidad and Tobago”

under and by virtue of Act No. 6 of 1971 under which body consists of the congregations of a number of Spiritual Baptist Churches in Trinidad and Tobago;

And whereas under and by virtue of Act No. 6 of 1971 The Reverend Bury Oswald Taylor of Los Bajos, Austin A. Branch of 33, Bengal Street, Port-of-Spain, Alexander Jerrel of Pepper Village, Fyzabad and Bismark Phillip of Quarry Village, Erin Road have been appointed Trustees (“the Trustees”) of the said National Ecclesiastical Council of Spiritual Baptist Churches of Trinidad and Tobago;

And whereas it is intended that the National Ecclesiastical Council of Spiritual Baptist Churches of Trinidad and Tobago shall be known and referred to as The Ecclesiastical Council of Spiritual Baptist Churches of Trinidad and Tobago;

And whereas the Trustees have since died and it is expedient that the The Ecclesiastical Council of Spiritual Baptist Churches of Trinidad and Tobago should be incorporated to hold lands and other property in its own name and to fulfil the aims and objects set out in the Act.

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

Short title 1. This Act may be cited as The Ecclesiastical Council of Spiritual Baptist Churches of Trinidad and Tobago (Incorporation) Act, 2010.

Intepretation 2. In this Act—
 “Administrative Board” means the decision-making body of the Council which shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Public Relations Officer, Treasurer and the Trustees;

“The Churches” means Mt. Carmel Spiritual Baptist Church, St. Peter’s Spiritual Baptist Church No. 1, St. Peter’s Spiritual Baptist Church No. 2, St. Marks’ Spiritual Baptist Church, Good Shepherd Spiritual Baptist Church, St. Philomen Spiritual Baptist Church, Mt. Sinai Spiritual Baptist Church No. 1, St. Peter’s Spiritual Baptist Church No. 3, Mt. Beulah Spiritual Baptist Church, Mt. Olive Spiritual Baptist Church No. 1, Mt. Olive Spiritual Baptist Church No. 2, Mt. Sinai Spiritual Baptist Church No. 2, Longlife With Jesus Spiritual Baptist Church No. 1 and Longlife With Jesus Spiritual Baptist Church No. 2.

“The Constitution” means the constitution of The Ecclesiastical Council of Spiritual Baptist Churches of Trinidad and Tobago Inc.;

“The Council” means The Ecclesiastical Council of Spiritual Baptist Churches of Trinidad and Tobago; and

“Trustees” means those persons appointed by The Administrative Board in accordance with the Constitution.

3. The Ecclesiastical Council of Spiritual Baptist Incorporation Churches of Trinidad and Tobago is hereby created a body corporate.

4. The aims and objects of the Council are:

Aims and objects

(a) to organise, establish and maintain a united Spiritual Baptist fellowship through bonafide Representatives of affiliated groups and assemblies;

- (b) to provide a qualified system of representation for and on behalf of Spiritual Baptist Assemblies and congregations generally;
- (c) to observe, maintain and exercise the accepted principles and tenets of the Spiritual Baptist Faith (commonly referred to as Shouters) in accordance with the Old and New Testament teachings of Jesus Christ our Lord, as handed down to His Apostles by revelation and inspiration and to testify thereto;
- (d) foster and perpetuate the doctrines and traditions of the Spiritual Baptist Faith;
- (e) to strengthen and build up the Churches as communities of worshipping;
- (f) to practise and propagate the said teachings by word and deed and witness thereto as missionaries wherever necessary; and
- (g) do all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above aims and objects and to utilize the resources of the Churches for that purpose.

Functions of
the Council

5. The functions of the Council are to—

- (a) ordain, license and otherwise qualify Ministers of Religion, Deacons, Deaconesses, Reverends and Bishops and such other offices as is necessary to carry out the religious duties and obligations of the congregations;
- (b) make recommendations pursuant to the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, the Education Act, the Marriage Act and any other written law; and

- (c) generally utilize the resources of the Churches and do whatsoever The Administrative Board may direct for the attainments of the aims and objects of the Council.

6. Subject to the approval of the Administrative Board, the Trustees shall exercise on behalf and in the name of the Council, the powers to— Powers of the Council

- (a) acquire and accept by purchase, gift, transfer, donation, exchange, devise, bequest, grant, conveyance, subscription or otherwise, any real or personal property or any estate or interest therein;
- (b) accept surrenders or reconveyances and enter into contracts;
- (c) sell, exchange, demise, grant, mortgage, convey, transfer, let or otherwise dispose of and deal with any property or assets which may, for the time being, be vested in or have been acquired by the Council;
- (d) borrow or raise money on the security of property or otherwise;
- (e) invest the monies of the Council upon such investments, securities or property as the Administrative Board shall direct; and
- (f) draw, make, accept, endorse, discount, execute and issue promissory notes, bills, cheques and other instruments and operate bank or building society accounts in the name of the Council.

7. (1) The churches, chapels, missions, houses, vicarages, lands, buildings and other real property set out in the Schedule or personal property now held by or vested or deemed to have been vested in any person for Vesting of Property

the use and benefit of the National Ecclesiastical Council of Spiritual Baptist Churches of Trinidad and Tobago are hereby transferred to and vested in the Council.

(2) All rights and privileges previously enjoyed and exercised by persons for the use and benefit of the Incorporated Trustees of The National Ecclesiastical Council of Spiritual Baptist Churches of Trinidad and Tobago are hereby transferred to and vested in the Council.

Seal

8. The Council shall have a common seal which may be altered by the Administrative Board.

Execution of Documents

9. Every document requiring the seal of the Council shall be sealed with the common seal of the Council in the presence of at least two Trustees of the Council or any one Trustee and any other person who may be appointed by the Administrative Board for that purpose, who shall both sign the document and the signing shall be *prima facie* evidence that the Seal was duly affixed and is the lawful Seal of the Council.

Service of Documents

10. (1) The Council shall have a fixed address in Trinidad and Tobago for the service of documents on the Council and the address and any change thereof shall be registered with the Registrar General within twenty-eight days of the date of incorporation or the change of address, as the case may be.

(2) Every document may be served on the Council by sending the document by registered post to the registered address of the Council.

(3) The address for service of the Trustees of The National Ecclesiastical Council of Spiritual Baptist Churches of Trinidad and Tobago immediately before the commencement of this Act shall, upon the commencement of this Act, be the registered address of the Council.

(4) Where the Council fails to register its address and any change thereof, it commits an offence and is liable to a fine of one hundred and twenty dollars and to a further fine of ten dollars for each day during which the offence continues after conviction.

11. (1) Legal proceedings pending or claims instituted ^{Transitional} or made by or subsisting against the Incorporated Trustees of The National Ecclesiastical Council of Spiritual Baptist Churches of Trinidad and Tobago immediately before the commencement of this Act shall be continued on and after the commencement of this Act by the Council.

(2) A reference in any enactment, deed, contract, security or other document to the Incorporated Trustees of The National Ecclesiastical Council of Spiritual Baptist Churches of Trinidad and Tobago shall upon the commencement of this Act be construed as a reference to the Council.

(3) All acts done between the 15th April, 1971 and the commencement of this Act by the Incorporated Trustees of The National Ecclesiastical Council of Spiritual Baptist Churches of Trinidad and Tobago which would have been validly done, are deemed to have been the acts of the Council.

12. Nothing in this Act affects or is deemed to affect ^{Saving of State or other rights} the rights of the State or of any bodies politic or corporate or of any other persons, except such as are mentioned or referred to in this Act and those claiming by, through, from or under them.

13. The National Ecclesiastical of Spiritual Baptist ^{Repeal of Ordinance} Churches of Trinidad and Tobago (Incorporated) Act, 1971, is hereby repealed.

No. 18 of 2010

FIRST SESSION

TENTH PARLIAMENT

REPUBLIC OF

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

BILL

AN ACT to repeal and replace the National Ecclesiastical Council of Spiritual Baptist Churches of Trinidad and Tobago and provide for the Ecclesiastical Council of Spiritual Baptist Churches of Trinidad and Tobago

Received and read the

First time

Second time

Third time
