

A BILL

entitled

COST OF LIVING COMMISSION AMENDMENT ACT 2026

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Cost of Living Commission Act 1974 to broaden the technological means by which price information may be furnished and shared publicly;

Be it enacted by The King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and the House of Assembly of Bermuda, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Citation

1 This Act which amends the Cost of Living Commission Act 1974 (“the principal Act”), may be cited as the Cost of Living Commission Amendment Act 2026.

Amends section 10A

2 In section 10A(3) of the principal Act, in the opening words, delete “electronic real-time indicators” and substitute “electronic or digital real-time indicators, systems and means”.

Amends section 10B

3 In section 10B(2) of the principal Act—
(a) in paragraph (c) after “electronic”, insert “or digital”; and
(b) in paragraph (e), delete “the time-frame” and substitute “the intervals and time-frame”.

Amends section 10C

4 In section 10C(b) of the principal Act, delete “by means of such electronic device” and substitute “by such electronic device or digital means”.

Amends section 10E

5 In section 10E(2) of the principal Act—
(a) in paragraph (e) after “electronic”, insert “or digital”;

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- (b) in paragraph (f), delete “the time-frame” and substitute “the intervals and time-frame”; and
- (c) in paragraph (g) after “electronic devices”, insert “or digital means”.

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EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill amends the Cost of Living Commission Act 1974 (the “principal Act”) to broaden the technological means by which price information may be furnished and shared publicly.

Clause 1 is self-explanatory.

Clause 2 amends section 10A of the principal Act. Section 10A provides for the establishment of a database consisting of the prices at which essential commodities may be purchased and the specified business undertakings providing such essential commodities for purchase. Clause 2 amends this section to enable the use of digital real-time systems and means to obtain and share such price information.

Clause 3 amends section 10B of the principal Act. Section 10B empowers the Commission to require, in accordance with regulations, a business undertaking to furnish the Commission with price information on the essential commodities that it sells. Clause 3 amends this section to provide for, in respect of such regulations, the furnishing of such information by digital means and at such intervals as may be prescribed.

Clause 4 amends section 10C of the principal Act. Section 10C provides for the ways in which the prices of essential commodities in the price database may be communicated to members of the public. Clause 4 amends this section to provide for such means of communication to the public to include via digital means.

Clause 5 amends section 10E of the principal Act. Section 10E empowers the Minister to make regulations setting out: the list of essential commodities, the business undertakings required to furnish price information on essential commodities, and how, when and the manner in which such information is to be furnished to the Commission and shared with the public. Clause 5 amends this section to enable the prescribing of intervals for the furnishing of information and the digital means for the furnishing and sharing of such information.