

**A BILL**

**entitled**

**PUBLIC SERVICE SUPERANNUATION AMENDMENT ACT 2018**

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Public Service Superannuation Act 1981 in relation to the circumstances in which members of the Royal Bermuda Regiment staff become entitled to a pension and to increase the rate of their pension contributions accordingly, and to make connected provision;

Be it enacted by The Queen'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 may be cited as the Public Service Superannuation Amendment Act 2018.

**Amends section 12**

2 In section 12 of the Public Service Superannuation Act 1981 ("the principal Act")—

(a) in subsection (1), after "(1A)" insert "and (1B)";

(b) after section (1A) insert—

"(1B) In the case of a member of the Bermuda Regiment staff, the monthly deduction shall be an amount that is equal to the following percentage of his salary—

(a) from 1 October 2018 ..... 9.5%."

**Amends section 19**

3 In section 19(1) of the principal Act—

(a) paragraph (c) (which provides that pensions are payable to Bermuda Regiment staff on retirement on attaining the age of sixty years) is repealed and the following substituted—

"(c) in the case of the Bermuda Regiment staff, on attaining the age of fifty-five years or on completion of twenty-five years' service, whichever first occurs;"

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(b) in the proviso, after “Commissioner” insert “, or a member of the Bermuda Regiment staff, ”.

**Amends section 22**

4 In section 22(1) of the principal Act, delete “Bermuda Regiment Governor’s Orders” and substitute “Royal Bermuda Regiment Governor’s Orders”.

**Amends section 34**

5 In the proviso to section 34 of the principal Act, after “Commissioner,” insert “and every member of the Bermuda Regiment staff,”.

## **PUBLIC SERVICE SUPERANNUATION AMENDMENT BILL 2018**

### **EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

This Bill seeks to amend the Public Service Superannuation Act 1981 (“the principal Act”) in relation to the circumstances in which full-time permanent members of the Royal Bermuda Regiment staff become entitled to a pension, and to increase the rate of their pension contributions accordingly.

Clause 1 is self-explanatory.

Clause 2 amends section 12 of the principal Act (contributions to be deducted from salary), to insert new subsection (1B) which increases the rate of pension contributions made by members of the Bermuda Regiment staff to 9.5% from 1 October 2018, in line with the rates paid by other uniformed services since April 2008.

Clause 3 makes two amendments to section 19(1) of the principal Act (circumstances entitling contributor to payment)—

Paragraph (a) replaces paragraph (c) (which provides that pensions are payable to Bermuda Regiment staff on retirement on attaining the age of sixty years) to provide that a member of the Bermuda Regiment staff who has contributed continuously to the Public Service Superannuation Fund for eight years or more will be entitled to a pension upon his retirement on attaining the age of fifty-five years or on completion of twenty-five years’ service, whichever first occurs. This is in line with the circumstances for police officers and fire officers, and will accord with amendments to retirement ages which are to be made to the Royal Bermuda Regiment Governor’s Orders 1993.

Paragraph (b) amends the proviso to include a reference to Bermuda Regiment staff, so that if a staff member retires after completing twenty-five years of service before attaining the age of fifty years, payment of his pension shall be deferred until he has attained that age. This is in line with the rule for other uniformed services.

Clause 4 makes a minor amendment to section 22(1) of the principal Act (age of compulsory retirement), to update the title of the Governor’s Orders to the Royal Bermuda Regiment Governor’s Orders, pursuant to the name change effected by the Defence Amendment Act 2015.

Clause 5 amends section 34 of the principal Act (service qualifying for pension), by providing that if a Bermuda Regiment staff member retires on attaining the age of fifty-five years, the number of years and months as is the difference between his actual age and sixty years shall be added for computation of his service for pension purposes. This aligns the position of the Bermuda Regiment staff with the other uniformed services.

