



Immigration (Transition) (Amendment & Validation) Bill, 2025

FACT SHEET

(2 December 2025)



FACT SHEET SUMMARY

The proposed amendments to the Immigration (Transition) Act (2022 Revision) are intended to update and refine aspects of the existing legislative framework to ensure it remains responsive to evolving social and economic circumstances.

The Act to be renamed the Caymanian Protection Act.

Work Permit Changes

- Work permit holders who change their employers within the first 2 years of their employment must leave the Islands for 1 year before applying for another work permit.
 - If 2 work permit persons marry, the term limit of both individuals will change to the holder with the lesser time remaining.
-

Residency and Employment Rights Certificate (RERC) and Permanent Residency (PR) Changes

- A person holding RERC, who is married to or in a civil partnership with a Caymanian or a Permanent Resident, must now wait 15 years before they can apply for naturalisation.
 - Continuation of RERC for parents of Caymanian children while prioritising the welfare and best interest of the Caymanian children.
 - Clarity provided to provisions governing grounds for revocation of PR and RERC holders.
 - Discretion for RERC continuation.
-

Caymanian Status Changes

- More efficient way for Caymanians to receive their Acknowledgement Letter from WORC based on proven connectivity to an official applicant for confirmation.



- Increasing the amount of time certain categories of persons have to be legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands prior to applying for Caymanian Status –
 - 20 years for persons who have been naturalized under the British Nationality Act, 1981;
 - 20 years for persons that are British Overseas Territory Citizens by virtue of their connection with another overseas territory; and
 - 15 years for persons married to or in a civil partnership with a Caymanian.
-

Financial Standing and Declaration Requirements

- Increased income requirements for work permit holders adding dependents:
 - Current policy: \$3,500 per month for the primary income for the first dependent and \$500 for each additional dependent;
 - New policy: \$5,000 per month for the primary income and the first dependent and \$1,000 per month for each additional dependent
 - Annual declarations will now also be required for persons holding:
 - Certificate of Direct Investment,
 - Residency Certificate (Substantial Business Presence)
 - Holder of a RERC (married to or in a civil partnership with a Caymanian); and
 - Persons who obtain Caymanian status through marriage. Filings must be done annually for the first 7 years after getting Caymanian status.
-

Information Sharing and Collaboration

- More effective way for WORC to share and receive information from key government agencies for applications and compliance purposes.
 - Sharing scholarship recipient information to assist graduates finding employment.
-

New Commercial Farmhand Certificate

- The new Certificate of Commercial Farmhand is issued for a period of 5 years, and can be issued a maximum of 2 times or until the applicant reaches the age of 65 (whichever comes first).
- Current Specialist Caregiver certificates to be subject to the same timeframes for issuing and renewing.