**PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PUNJAB**

**Bill No. 26 of 2017**

**THE PUNJAB EMPLOYEES EFFICIENCY, DISCIPLINE AND ACCOUNTABILITY (AMENDMENT) BILL 2017**

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*further to amend the Punjab Employees Efficiency, Discipline and Accountability Act, 2006.*

It is necessary further to amend the Punjab Employees Efficiency, Discipline and Accountability Act, 2006 *(XII of 2006)* for purposes of specifying the period after which certain punishments shall cease to have effect, for expressly providing that a former employee shall also have a right of appeal; and, for the matters appearing hereinafter.

Be it enacted by Provincial Assembly of the Punjab as follows:

**1. Short title, extent and commencement**.– (1) This Act may be cited as the Punjab Employees Efficiency, Discipline and Accountability (Amendment) Act 2017.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

**2. Amendment in section 4 of Act XII of 2006**.– In the Punjab Employees Efficiency, Discipline and Accountability Act, 2006 *(XII of 2006),* hereinafter referred to as the Act, in section 4, in subsection (1):

(a) in clause (a), in sub-clause (iv), after the words ”five stages”, the words “for a specific period” shall be inserted; and

(b) in clause (c):

(i) in sub-clause (i), after the word “thereof”, the words “for a specific period keeping in view the loss caused to the Government” shall be inserted; and

(ii) in sub-clause (ii), after the word “thereof”, the words “for a specific period keeping in view the loss caused to Government” shall be inserted.

**3. Amendment in section 13 of Act XII of 2006**.– In the said Act, in section 13:

(a) in subsection (7) and subsection (8) for the words “ninety days”, wherever occur, the words “sixty days” shall be substituted; and

(b) after subsection (7) as amended, the following subsection (7a) shall be inserted:

 “(7a) the Cabinet Committee on Legislation may allow further time if it is satisfied that the competent authority could not decide the case within sixty days for reasons beyond its control.”

**4. Amendment in section 19 of Act XII of 2006**.– In the said Act, in section 19, the following Explanation shall be added at the end:

“**Explanation**: The word “employee”, in this section, shall include a former employee.”

**STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS**

Pursuant to the judgment of Hon’ble Supreme Court of Pakistan in CPLA No.2348-L/2003, penalty of reduction to a lower stage or stages in pay scale is proposed to be limited to a specific period alongside making the penalty of withdrawal of pension or any part thereof restricted to a certain period. Besides, the period of ninety days is reduced to sixty days within which the competent authority shall decide the case after receipt of inquiry report for expeditious disposal of inquiry against an employee. Right of appeal is also extended to an aggrieved employee who retires from Government service before completion of proceedings against him under the Act. Hence this Bill.

 **MINISTER INCHARGE**

**Lahore: RAI MUMTAZ HUSSAIN BABAR**

**13 September 2017 Secretary**