

[AS PASSED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]

**A
BILL**

To provide for the well-being, comfort and dignity of the senior citizens residing in the Islamabad Capital Territory

WHEREAS it is expedient to establish a Fund to provide for the well-being, comfort, and dignity of the senior citizens residing in the Islamabad Capital Territory;

WHEREAS the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan enjoins on the State to alleviate the sufferings of all citizens, irrespective of sex, caste, creed or race;

AND WHEREAS Pakistan being a member state of the United Nations has committed to fulfilling its international obligations which include following the UN Principles for Older Persons and Madrid International Plan of Action on aging;

Therefore it is hereby enacted as follows:

**PART - I
PRELIMINARY**

1. Short title, extent and commencement. - (1) This Act may be called the Islamabad Capital Territory Senior Citizens Act, 2020.

- (2) It shall extend to the Islamabad Capital Territory.
- (3) It shall come into force.

2. Definitions.-(1) In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context, -

- (a) "Act" means the Islamabad Capital Territory Senior Citizens Act, 2020;
- (b) "Council" means the Islamabad Capital Territory Senior Citizens Council established under section 3;
- (c) "Court" means the District and Sessions courts of Islamabad as well as the Islamabad High Court;
- (d) "Chairperson" means the Chairperson of the Council;
- (e) "Controlling Ministry" means the Ministry and the relevant Department therein from where the Senior Citizen had retired;
- (f) "Fund" means the Senior Citizens Fund established under section 15;
- (g) "Indigent" means any senior citizen who is frail, sickly, or with disability, and without pension or permanent source of income, compensation or financial assistance from his relatives or from any other source to support his basic needs;

- (h) "Prescribed" means as prescribed under the Rules or Regulations under this Act;
- (i) "Regulations" mean the regulations made by the Council under section 26 of this Act;
- (j) "Rules" mean the rules made under section 25;
- (k) "Senior Citizen" means an elderly person who has attained sixty years of age or more and is residing in the Islamabad Capital Territory;
- (l) "Welfare" includes all such services relating to the social, economic, boarding and lodging needs of the senior citizens as well as their legal protection as provided under this Act; and
- (m) "Welfare Packages or Grants" mean welfare and social security packages or grants announced for welfare of the senior citizens by the Government.

(2) The expressions, not defined in sub-section(1), shall have the same meaning as defined in any other relevant law or as generally used.

PART-II SENIOR CITIZENS COUNCIL

3. Establishment of the Council.-(1) As soon as of the commencement of the Act, the Ministry of Human Rights shall establish a Council to be known as the Senior Citizens Council.

(2) The Council shall be an autonomous body corporate having its own seal and may enter into contracts and may acquire, purchase, rent, hold and enjoy moveable and immovable property of every description and may in all legal ways transfer or dispose of any moveable or immovable property or any interest vested in such property.

(3) The seal of the Council shall be kept in the custody of the Chairperson of the Council.

4. Composition of the Council.-(1) The Council shall consist of the following:

- | | | |
|-----|--|-------------|
| (a) | Minister for Human Rights Division | Chairperson |
| (b) | Member of the Civil Society to be nominated by ICT Administration | Member |
| (c) | Chief Commissioner, ICT | Member |
| (d) | One representative not below the level of Joint Secretary of the Finance Division | Member |
| (e) | One representative not below the level of Joint Secretary of the National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination Division | Member |
| (f) | One representative from Pakistan Bait-ul-Maal | Member |
| (g) | Senior Citizen nominated by Human Rights Division | Member |
| (h) | One member of the National Assembly from the opposition to be appointed by the Speaker | Member |

- (i) One member of the Senate from the Member opposition to be appointed by the Chairman Senate
- (j) One representative from Poverty Alleviation Member and Social Security Division not below the level of Joint Secretary
- (k) Secretary Human Rights Division *Ex-officio Member cum Secretary*

(2)The Council shall have the powers to co-opt members from amongstthe relevant departments and frompersons who are experts in their respective fields, for advice on particular matters under its consideration.

(3)The members of the Council, other than ex-officio members, shall be nominated for a term of three years which may be extended for another term of three years.

(4)If a member of the Council, other than ex-officio member, is unable to perform as member of the Council, he shall inform the Council and the Council after receiving such information, may cancel his or her membership.

(5)Any casual vacancy of a member, other than an ex-officio member, shall be filled in by a person nominated by the respective authority and the person so nominated shall hold the office for the unexpired period of the term of his predecessor.

5. Executive Committee of the Council.-(1) The Council shall constitute an Executive Committee comprising of the Chairperson, two members and Secretary of the Council.

(2)The Executive Committee shall perform such functions as may be assigned to it by the Council.

6. Appointment of employees or officers.-To carry out the purposes of this Act, the Council may appoint or employ advisors, experts and consultants of the required fields on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed in the Regulations.

7. Qualification of Members.-No person shall be a member of the Council unless,-

- (a) he is a citizen of Pakistan;
- (b) he is sane and of sound mind;
- (c) he has not been convicted of an offence involving moral turpitude;
- (d) he has not, at any time, been disqualified for employment in or dismissed from Government service;
- (e) he is not acting in contravention of the provisions of this Act;
- (f) he has no conflict of interest, directly or indirectly, with the Council.

8. Powers and Functions of the Council.-(1) Subject to the provisions of thisAct and any rules prescribed therein, the Council shall exercise such powers and perform such functions, as may be necessary for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

(2)Without prejudice to the generality of the fore-going sub-section, the Council shall:

- (a) formulate policy proposals on aging in the light of national and international commitments on the welfare of senior citizens and