

(NO. 2 OF 2014)

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BILL

Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE ACT (CAP.7).

ENACTED by the National Parliament of Solomon Islands.

Short title and commencement

1. This Act may be cited as the Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Act, 2014, and shall come into force on such date as the Minister may appoint by Notice published in the Gazette.

Insertion of new section 315A 2. The Criminal Procedure Code Act is hereby amended by inserting a new section 315A -

"Electronic records of proceedings

- 315A (1) All requirements for recording any proceedings before a Magistrate, may be satisfied by the Clerk of the Court or other officer performing the duties of the Clerk of the Court, recording the evidence using a suitable recording device.
 - (2) As soon as practicable after the conclusion of any proceedings, the Magistrate must cause the recording to be transcribed into writing and such transcript shall for all purposes be deemed to be the official record of such proceeding.".

OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Object of this Bill is to enable proceedings conducted in a Magistrate's Court to be recorded using sound recording equipment.

HON. COMMINS ASHTON MEEWA
MINISTER FOR JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Clause 1 provides for the short title and commencement of the Act.

Clause 2 seeks to add a new clause 315A which would provide that the requirements for recording any proceedings before a Magistrate's Court may be satisfied by the Clerk of the Court or other officer, recording the evidence using a suitable recording device. Where suitable recording equipment is not available, the existing requirements for evidence to be taken down in writing will continue.

Further it will also provide that the Magistrate must cause the recording to be transcribed into writing and such transcript shall be deemed to be the official record of such proceedings.

HON. COMMINS ASHTON MEEWA
MINISTER FOR JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

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