



PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MAKHANDA PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY OFFICE **SPECIAL INSESSION**

PARLIAMENT

*Following up on our commitments to the people
Making your future work better*

SPEAKER'S MAKHANDA CONSTITUENCY OFFICE HOSTS BACK-TO-SCHOOL OUTREACH PROGRAMME

PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

BACK²SCHOOL

OUTREACH PROGRAMME

11-12 APRIL 2022
MAKHANDA PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY OFFICE



The Speaker of the National Assembly, Ms Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula, will host a two-day Back-to-School Outreach Programme in Makhanda, which is part of her constituency. The programme will focus on the development and well-being of learners – their physical, emotional, intellectual, social and spiritual well-being – from 11-12 April.

The programme is a response to the fact that for the first time since 1994, all education districts in the Eastern Cape recorded pass rates above 65%, despite the learners losing more than half their teaching time in 2020/21 because of the Covid-19 pandemic. The province showed significant improvement in its pass rate. The programme aims to promote the whole development of the learner, with a focus on their mental health as a result of the impact of COVID-19 and in the shadow of gender-based violence and femicide. The programme is specifically



designed for learners and students in the Makana Municipality.

Makhanda is the largest town in the Makana Local Municipality and the seat of the municipal council. The town was named Makhanda in honour of a Xhosa warrior and prophet Makhanda ka Nxele who, during the Xhosa Wars, led an attack against the British garrison at Grahamstown in 1819. Makhanda is a town of about 140 000 people in the Eastern Cape.

The municipality is approximately halfway between East London and Port Elizabeth and it forms part of the seven local municipalities of the Sarah Baartman District Municipality in the province. In 2011 the municipality was divided into 14 wards. It is home to Rhodes University, which was founded in 1904, as well as other educational institutions, primary and high schools. Each year, Makhanda (previously known as Grahamstown) comes alive when the National Arts Festival comes to town. Visitors get the chance to see performances from national artists, experience the local markets, and get a taste of culture and indigenous cuisines.

Parliamentary Constituency Offices (PCOs) are local parliamentary offices located across South Africa and all

Members of Parliament are assigned to a PCO to ensure that they fulfil their functions of representing the views and concerns of citizens to the best of their ability and that Parliament and its Members remain accountable to the people. Through these offices, Members can represent and engage with communities, facilitate public involvement and get a balanced view of service delivery concerns when exercising oversight over executive government.

The Child Participation Framework anchors the Back-to-School programme and is guided by the principle “The best interest of the child is paramount in every matter concerning the child.” Child participation refers to the active involvement of children in the decisions, processes (practices), programmes and policies (rules) that affect their lives.

The Makhanda programme seeks to:

- Create sustainable partnerships between key role-players in the Makhanda Constituency and surrounding communities to foster full support of the learner through the provision of equitable and quality secondary education;

- Involve youth and learners in identifying their needs and becoming agents in identifying and closing the gaps preventing them from reaching their full potential as human beings;
- Promote critical consciousness and critical thinking; and
- Encourage youth and communities to dream and envision a future beyond their current reality and to overcome, shape, and change our reality positively.

The programme presents participants with an opportunity to engage and discuss important issues facing learners and youth in the Makana Local Municipality and in the country as a whole. Participants will need to think critically about the challenges that confront learners and our education system. The programme will provide an opportunity for critical analysis of the social, political and cultural conditions in which learners and students find themselves. It will require participants to be aware of their immediate environment – politically, socially, culturally, economically, and environmentally. The programme is also meant to foster educational growth and engagement with Parliament, organs of state, civil society, learners and students.

The programme includes the launch of the Makhana PCO on 12 April 2022 so that participants not only get to meet and engage with the Member of Parliament assigned to the constituency, but also know where their PCO is located and what services to expect from the PCO.



National Assembly Speaker Mapisa-Nqakula to launch Makhanda Parliamentary Constituency Office with a two-day youth-targeted outreach programme

The National Assembly (NA) Speaker, Ms. Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula, will launch the Makhanda Parliamentary Constituency Office (PCO) with a two-day learner-targeted outreach programme scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, 11 and 12 April 2022.

Parliament has embarked on a programme of reimagining, remodelling and repurposing of Parliamentary Constituency Offices as strategic points of the people-parliament interface. In terms of the Constitution, Sections 59 and 72, Parliament has a duty to promote public access and meaningful participation in parliamentary processes and activities. Over 200 participants, inclusive of 150 learners from 11 multi-



quintal schools of Makhanda as well as leaders of state and non-state agencies with a critical role to play in child and youth development in South Africa will be in attendance.

National Assembly Speaker decided on the two-day outreach programme to the Makhanda Parliamentary Constituency to focus on the engagement and empowerment of

young people through inter-generational dialogue and exposure. The programme seeks to celebrate the significant improvements in the 2021 matric pass rates in the Eastern Cape and to address challenges that inhibit youths' realisation of their full potential in the area. These challenges include the spread of HIV and AIDS with over 12.5% of the population of Makana living with the disease, gender-based



violence and femicide, bullying in schools, toxic masculinity, drug abuse and teenage pregnancies.

Through partnerships with a range of state and non-state development organisations, an exhibition will be mounted offering inspirational information and opportunities for youth development and growth. Lined up to anchor the exhibition with Parliament are stakeholders such as Rhodes, Nelson Mandela Children's Fund, Save the Children South Africa, the South African Disability Alliance as well as Arts and Culture, Health and Education Departments.

The two-day programme features plenary sessions where leaders of Parliament will engage young people, a jamboree where youth will access information and engage with facilitators about challenges facing young people.

The programme also features leadership in the South African legislative sector and government.

These include the Presiding Officers of Parliament – Speaker Mapisa-Nqakula and NCOP Chairperson Amos Masondo, Deputy Speaker Lechesa Tsenoli and Deputy Chairperson Sylvia Lucas, Eastern Cape Legislature Speaker Helen Sauls-August and Deputy Speaker Mlibo Qhoboshiyane, Deputy Sports Arts and Culture Minister Nocawe Mafu, Eastern Cape Education MEC Fundile Gade, Higher Education Science

and Technology Portfolio Committee Chairperson Nompandolo Mkhathswa, Sarah Baartman District Municipality Speaker Nomhle Gaga, Makhanda Mayor Yandiswa Vara, and Speaker Mthuthuzeli Matyumza.

Parliament plans to roll out similar programmes of reengineering PCOs and raising the bar in meaningfully engaging young people in all provinces.

DETAILS OF THE TWO-DAY PROGRAMME ARE AS FOLLOWS:

OUTREACH PROGRAMME

Date: Monday, 11 April – Tuesday, 12 April 2022

Time: 08:30 – 15:00

Venue: 1820 Settlers Monument, Makhanda

CONSTITUENCY LAUNCH

Date: 11 April

Time: 15:00

Venue: Makhanda Parliamentary Constituency Office



Makhanda Parliamentary Constituency Office to hold **intergenerational dialogues with schools**



As part of Parliament's stakeholder engagement, the Speaker of the National Assembly, Ms Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula, through the Makhanda Parliamentary Constituency Office (PCO) will host the Back-2-School Outreach Programme. The programme will take place from 10 to 11 April 2022 in Makhanda, Eastern Cape Province writes Thobile Beta

The purpose of the initiative is to



recognise the significantly improved matric pass rate of 2021 and to kick-start the current academic year by focusing on the full development and well-being of the learner. This includes their physical, emotional, intellectual, social and spiritual wellbeing as a result of the impact of Covid-19 and in the shadow of the Gender-Based Violence and Femicide pandemics.

The initiative will target school learners, educators, learner

representative councils, and also student representative councils of universities and TVET Colleges. The programme aims to solve problems through inter-generational dialogue and to create a platform to engage in burning issues and better understand challenges affecting learners and educators in Makhanda and surrounding areas.

Various stakeholders will be participating in the hybrid programme, including schools in the district, parliamentary divisions, government departments and entities, religious bodies, non-governmental organisations, local and district municipalities, provincial legislature, SETAs and other PCOs. The various institutions will bring their services to the youth of Makhanda, such as career guidance, information and awareness exhibitions.





PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



English

Committees of Parliament

Committees of Parliament

Most of the work of Parliament is done by committees. Members of the public can express their opinions directly to the committees to influence the outcome of Parliament's decisions. Committee meetings are open to the public, although they may be closed if there is a very good reason to do so.

Parliament does its work in plenary sessions (where members of a house meet in one group), in joint sittings (where both Houses meet as one group), and in committees (smaller groups of members). The plenary groups of the two Houses form specialised committees that are given responsibility for certain tasks.



Working in committees allows Parliament to:



Increase the amount of work that can be done - it is more efficient for a large group to delegate its work to smaller groups than to try to do it all in a single group;



Ensure that issues can be debated in more depth than can be done in plenary sessions as this provides more time to concentrate on details;



Increase the participation of Members of Parliament (MPs) in discussions - small groups allow for better participation;



Enable MPs to develop expertise and in-depth knowledge of the committee's area of work;



Provide a forum for the public to present its views directly to MPs, which is not possible in a plenary sitting of Parliament; and



Provide a forum for Parliament to hear evidence and collect documents that are relevant to the work of a specific committee.

Committees have to report to the National Assembly (NA) or National Council of Provinces (NCOP) that appointed them, and these plenary groups must ratify decisions they make. For example, once a committee has considered a bill, the bill must be debated and voted on in the House/s. Committees are, in general, proportionally representative of the political parties in Parliament.



Committees of Parliament

The work of Committees

Most Parliamentary committees have the following functions of the following functions:



Monitor and oversee the work of national government departments and hold them accountable;



Oversee the accounts of national government departments and state institutions;



Examine specific government portfolios generally linked to areas of public life or matters of public interest;



Consider bills and amend them, and may initiate bills;



Consider private members' and provincial legislative proposals and special petitions; and



Consider international treaties and agreements.

Committees have the power to summon any person to appear before them to give evidence or produce documents. They may request any person or institution to report to them, and they may receive petitions, representations or submissions from the public. They play a crucial role in the lawmaking process.



Committees of Parliament



Portfolio and Select Committees

The NA appoints from among its members a number of Portfolio Committees to shadow the work of the various national government departments. Each committee has between 17 to 19 full members, and a number of alternate members.

Portfolio Committees consider bills, oversee departmental budget votes, oversee the work of the department that they are responsible for, and enquire and make recommendations about any aspect of the department, including its structure, functioning and policy. Government departments are accountable to Parliament.

The work of committees is not restricted to government - they may investigate any matter of public interest that falls within their area of responsibility. There is a Portfolio Committee for each of the national ministries and their associated government departments.

The NCOP appoints from its permanent members a number of Select Committees to shadow the work of the various national government departments and to deal with bills impacting provinces. Each committee has between 13 to 15 full members. Because the NCOP has only 54 permanent members, the Select Committees shadow the work of more than one national government department (Clusters).

Public Accounts Committee

The NA's Standing Committee on Public Accounts acts as Parliament's watchdog over the way that taxpayers money is spent by the executive. Every year the Auditor-General tables reports on the accounts and financial management of the various government departments and state institutions. Heads of these bodies are regularly called to account. This Standing Committee can recommend that the NA takes corrective actions if necessary.

Ad hoc (temporary) Committees

Whenever there is a need for a specific task to be done, Parliament or one of its Houses may appoint an ad hoc (temporary) committee to do the work. When the task is complete, the committee is dissolved. For example ad hoc committees are set-up to investigate specific laws or specific concerns like gender equality or alleged breaches of parliamentary privileges.

FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

UNITY AND RECONCILIATION

OPENNESS AND PARTICIPATION

OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE



Joint Committees

The NA and the NCOP together appoint a number of joint committees, for example the Constitutional Review Committee to deal with the annual reviews of the Constitution. The Joint Committee on Ethics and Members' Interests keeps a register of MPs' financial interests to help prevent corruption and conflicts of interest. The register includes what MPs own, gifts they have received and any other sources of income they may have.

The Joint Standing Committee on Intelligence and the Joint Standing Committee on Defence are statutory committees. This means that they are established either by the Constitution or by an Act of Parliament, as well as in terms of the rules of Parliament.

Ad hoc joint committees are formed whenever necessary. When the NA and the NCOP are unable to agree on a bill, the Mediation Committee tries to reach a compromise.

Who's who on a Committee?

Each Committee has a Chairperson appointed from amongst its membership. The committee is supported by administrative staff including a Committee Secretary. Details of each Committee can be found on Parliament's website at www.parliament.gov.za





PARLIAMENT
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English

Housing Consumer Protection Bill [B10-2021]












Housing Consumer Protection BILL

[B10-2021]

Parliament of South Africa is inviting inputs from the public on the Housing Consumer Protection Bill (B10-2021). The National Assembly (NA) Portfolio Committee on Human Settlements acting under section 59 (1) of the Constitution, seeks to facilitate public involvement in the legislative and other processes of the Assembly and its committees.

What is the Housing Consumer Protection Bill?





The Bill seeks to repeal the Housing Consumers Protection Measures Act, 1998 and to provide for:

-  the protection of housing consumers;
-  the continuance of the National Home Builders Registration Council as the National Home Building Regulatory Council;
-  the registration of home builders;
-  the enrolment of homes in order to be covered by the home warranty fund;
-  the regulation of the conduct of home builders;
-  the continuance of the home warranty fund;
-  claims against the fund;
-  the funds of the Council and for the management of those funds;
-  procurement and contractual matters in relation to the building of a home;
-  the enforcement of this Act; and
-  related matters.

What is the purpose of the Housing Consumer Protection Bill?

The Housing Consumer Protection Bill seeks to repeal the Housing Consumers Protection Measures Act, 1998 (Act No. 95 of 1998). The Act came into effect on 4 June 1999 and has been amended at least three times.

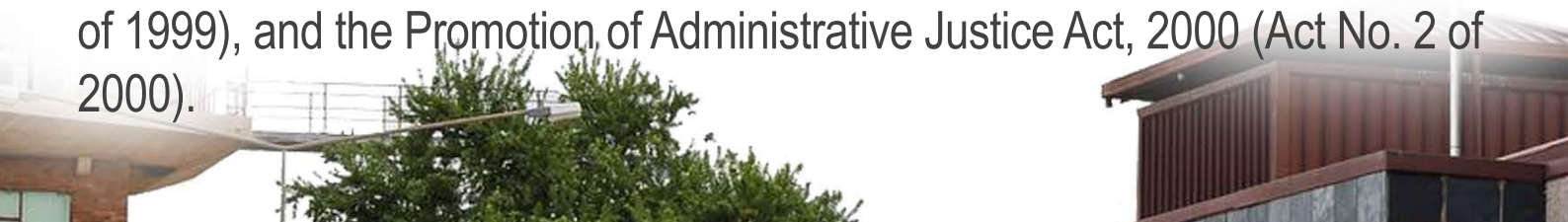
The Department of Human Settlements and the National Home Builders Registration Council, have since identified certain challenges with key provisions of the Act. To this end, the Bill seeks to ensure adequate protection of housing consumers and effective regulation of the home building industry by, inter alia:

-  strengthening the regulatory mechanisms;
-  strengthening the protection of housing consumers;
-  introducing effective enforcement mechanisms; and
-  prescribing appropriate penalties or sanctions to deter non-compliance by home builders.

In addition, the Bill seeks to address the economic transformation of the industry through the introduction of provisions relating to the warranty fund surplus which may be utilised towards developmental programmes for the home building industry.

The Bill seeks to create an enabling environment for new entrants into the home building industry through the introduction of contractual provisions that ensure their sustainability in the market.

The Bill further seeks to align and create synergy with other relevant pieces of legislation such as the Public Finance Management Act, 1999 (Act No. 1 of 1999), and the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000 (Act No. 2 of 2000).



What is the purpose of the main proposed amendments to the Act?



Chapter I of the Bill deals with definitions, application of the Act and application of the Public Finance Management Act to the Council.



Chapter II of the Bill seeks to provide for the continuation of the Council, established in terms of section 2 of the Act, as a juristic person to be known as the National Home Building Regulatory Council. It further seeks to provide for the objectives of the Council, governance and structures of the Council.



Chapter III of the Bill seeks to provide for the registration of home builders and developers, the establishment of a register of home builders, the requirements for registration, suspension of registration, grading of home builders and liability of an unregistered home builder or developer.



Chapter IV of the Bill seeks to provide for the establishment of a register of enrolments.



Chapter V of the Bill seeks to provide for the funds of the Council.



Chapter VI of the Bill seeks to prohibit the procurement of services to build a home.



Chapter VII of the Bill seeks to provide for the enforcement of the provisions of the Bill, once enacted. The chapter further seeks to provide for alternative dispute resolution, criminal offences and sanctions.



Chapter VIII of the Bill seeks to provide for various matters including the Home Building Manual; the making of rules by the Council and of regulations by the Minister; the recovery of fees; vicarious liability; the personal liability of the members, directors, trustees of a home builder; duties of estate agents, financial institutions, conveyancers; the codes of conduct for Council members, home builders, developers and other industry role players. This Chapter also deals with transitional matters.



HOUSING CONSUMER PROTECTION BILL [B10-2021]

Why is Parliament inviting public input?

Parliament is mandated by the Constitution to ensure that the public is involved in all its processes, including law-making. To honour this mandate, the Portfolio Committee on Human Settlements is inviting all interested and affected parties to participate in its processing of the Housing Consumer Protection Bill.

Why is it important to participate?



Public participation is a democratic process that ensures law-makers listen to the voices of the people when they are making law.

Who must participate and how?

All interested and affected parties, individuals and organised formations i.e. the home building industry, labour federations and affiliated unions, workers, the business sector, civil rights organisations and academic institutions, to mention a few, are invited to participate by making written submissions to the Portfolio Committee on Human Settlements. The Committee may also invite members of the public to make oral submissions.



What happens after you have submitted your inputs to the Committee?

The committee will consider all public inputs on the amendments of the principal Act for the National Assembly (NA) to pass the Bill. The Bill will then be referred to the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) for further deliberation and concurrence. Thereafter, the Bill will be sent to the President for assent and signing into law.

For further information about submissions, upcoming public hearings and requests for free copies of the bill, contact:

Secretary of the Portfolio Committee on Human Settlements, Kholiswa Pasiya-Mndende on:






Cell phone : 083 709 8495

Telephone : 021 403 3725

Email : kpasiya-mndende@parliament.gov.za

Did You Know ?



-  Parliament is the national law-making body of South Africa.
-  Parliament comprises two Houses, namely the National Assembly (NA) and the National Council of Provinces (NCOP).
-  Bills are mainly introduced to Parliament by the Minister of the specific government department.
-  Parliament is obliged by the Constitution to obtain views of the people before passing any bill.
-  For the bill to be passed into law, the President needs to sign it (assent to it).

Submission guideline

Head your submission with the full title of the topic or Bill.

Date:	
Topic or Bill:	
Name of Committee:	

State whom the submission is from

First and Surname	
State whether you have been nominated to represent an organisation	
Name of organisation (if nominated to represent an organisation)	
Your position in the organisation	
Aims of the organisation	
How many people belong to the organization?	

Provide contact details (Include a contact address, daytime telephone number and ID number. If for private reasons you do not wish these details to be made public, state this in your covering letter and leave it off the submission itself)

Postal Address:	
Street Address:	
Province:	
Tel No:	
Cell No:	
E-Mail:	

State whether you wish to appear before the Committee

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Do you wish others to appear with you before the committee?
If yes, please provide their full name(s) and surname(s) and their role(s)

Name(s) and Surname(s)	Role(s)

State your concerns on the Bill or topic. Please support your views by examples.

--

Provide recommendations/suggestions.

--

Sum up or list the main points of your recommendations.

--

Who else supports you?

Name(s) and Surname(s)	Role

Please take note that the information you are submitting will be processed as set out above and that by submitting this information, you consent to the processing of this information as required by the Protection of Personal Information Act No. 4 of 2013.



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