

REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA BILL

EXPLANATORY NOTE

THIS Bill deals with the position that has arisen by virtue of the fact that Ceylon became a Republic to be known as the Republic of Sri Lanka on 22 May 1972, while remaining a member of the Commonwealth.

Clause 1 relates to the Short Title and commencement. The Act is deemed to have come into force on 22 May 1972.

Clause 2: Subclause (1) provides that existing law shall continue to apply as if Sri Lanka had not become a Republic, unless any such law is duly altered in the future so as not to apply.

Subclause (2) provides that the clause extends to the law of, or of any part of, New Zealand or of any of the territories referred to in *clause 3*.

Clause 3: Subclause (1) provides that the new Act is to be in force in Niue and in the Tokelau Islands.

Subclause (2) makes the new Act a reserved enactment in Niue. The result is that the Niue Island Assembly may not make any Ordinance that is repugnant to the new Act.

Clause 4 provides for references to Ceylon to be read as references to Sri Lanka.

Right Hon. Sir Keith Holyoake

REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

ANALYSIS

Title	2. Existing law to apply as if Sri Lanka had not become a Republic
Preamble	3. Application of Act to Niue and Tokelau Islands
1. Short Title and commencement	4. References to Ceylon to be read as references to Sri Lanka

A BILL INTITULED

An Act to make provision as to the operation of the law in relation to Sri Lanka, and persons and things in any way belonging to or connected with Sri Lanka, in view
5 of Ceylon's having become a Republic to be known as the Republic of Sri Lanka while remaining a member of the Commonwealth

WHEREAS on the 22nd day of May 1972, Ceylon became a Republic to be known as the Republic of Sri Lanka while
10 remaining a member of the Commonwealth:

BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. **Short Title and commencement**—(1) This Act may be
15 cited as the Republic of Sri Lanka Act 1972.

(2) This Act shall be deemed to have come into force on the 22nd day of May 1972.

2. Existing law to apply as if Sri Lanka had not become a Republic—(1) All existing law—that is to say, all law which, whether it is a rule of law or a provision of an Act of any Parliament or a provision of any other enactment or instrument whatsoever, has come into force or been passed or made before the commencement of this Act—shall, until provision to the contrary is made by the authority having power to alter that law, have the same operation in relation to Sri Lanka, and to persons and things in any way belonging to or connected with Sri Lanka, as it would have had if Sri Lanka had not become a Republic. 5 10

(2) This section extends to the law of, or of any part of, New Zealand or of any of the territories referred to in section 3 of this Act.

3. Application of Act to Niue and Tokelau Islands— 15

(1) This Act shall be in force in the following territories:

(a) Niue:

(b) The Tokelau Islands.

(2) The First Schedule to the Niue Act 1966 is hereby amended by adding the following words: 20

“1972, No. 00—The Republic of Sri Lanka Act 1972 | The whole Act.”

4. References to Ceylon to be read as references to Sri Lanka—Every reference to Ceylon in any Act, Order in Council, Proclamation, notice, regulations, rules, agreement, deed, instrument, or document whatsoever shall hereafter be read as a reference to Sri Lanka. 25