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GENERAL NOTICE

NOTICE 778 OF 2008**PARLIAMENT OF REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA****PUBLICATION OF DRAFT DUTCH REFORMED CHURCHES UNION
(PRIVATE) ACT REPEAL BILL, 2008**

A draft Dutch Reformed Churches Union (Private) Act Repeal Bill, 2008, as presented to the Speaker of the National Assembly by Mr Pierre-Jeanne Gerber, MP is hereby published for comment. Interested persons and institutions are invited to submit written comments on the draft legislation before 3 July 2008, to the following person:

**The Secretary to Parliament
For the attention of :
Mr Disang Mocumi
3rd Floor, 90 Plein Street
Cape Town
8001**

**Postal Address:
P O Box 15
Cape Town
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Fax: (021) 403 2808
Email: dmocumi@parliament.gov.za**

BILL

**To provide for the repeal of the Dutch Reformed Churches Union Act;
and to provide for matters connected therewith.**

BE IT ENACTED by the Parliament of the Republic of South Africa, as follows:-

Repeal of laws

1. The Dutch Reformed Churches Union Act No 23 of 1911 is hereby repealed

Short title

5. This Act is called the Dutch Reformed Churches Union Repeal Act,
2008.

MEMORANDUM ON THE OBJECTS OF THE DUTCH REFORMED CHURCH UNION ACT REPEAL BILL

1. OBJECTS OF BILL

The objects of the Bill are to—

- (a) remove obstacles in the unification process of the Verenigde Gereformeerde Kerk, Reformed Church of Africa and the Dutch Reformed Churches without legislative intervention.*
- (b) remove racially discriminatory legislation from the Statutes;*
- (c) repeal the Dutch Reformed Churches Union Act, 1911 and the Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa (Repael of Laws) (Private) Act, 1961.*

2. IMPLICATIONS FOR STATE

None.

3. BODIES CONSULTED

The following bodies were consulted:

- The Bible Society of South Africa
- The Methodist Church
- The Council of African Instituted Churches
- The Muslim Judicial Council
- South African of Council of Churches

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS FOR STATE

None

5. CONSTITUTIONAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

6. PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

6.1 The Parliamentary Legal Advisers are of the opinion that this Bill must be dealt with in accordance with the procedure established by section 75 of the Constitution, since it contains no provision to which the procedure set out in section 74 or 76 of the Constitution applies.

6.2 The Parliamentary Legal Advisers are of the opinion that it is not necessary to refer this Bill to the National House of Traditional Leaders in terms of section 18(1)(a) of the Traditional Leadership and Governance Framework Act, 2003 (Act No. 41 of 2003), since it does not contain provisions pertaining to customary law or customs of traditional communities.

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