

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DUTCH REFORMED CHURCHES UNION ACT REPEAL BILL

*(As introduced in the National Assembly (proposed section 75);
Bill published in Government Gazette No. 31160 of 13 June 2008)
(The English text is the official text of the Bill)*

(MR P A GERBER)

[B 69—2008]

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BILL

To provide for the repeal of the Dutch Reformed Churches Union Act, 1911; 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 The Dutch Reformed Churches Union Act, 1911 (Act No. 23 of 1911), is hereby repealed.

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Short title

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

MEMORANDUM ON THE OBJECTS OF THE DUTCH REFORMED CHURCHES UNION ACT REPEAL BILL, 2008

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 (Repeal 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 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.