

PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NO. 3463

29 August 2025

DR TEBOGO KGOSIETSILO SOLOMON LETLAPE, MP**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO INTRODUCE A PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL
AND INVITATION FOR COMMENT ON THE DRAFT PARLIAMENTARY
AND PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AID SCHEME AMENDMENT BILL, 2025**

Dr Tebogo Kgosietsile Solomon Letlape, MP, acting in accordance with section 73(2) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 ("Constitution"), intends to introduce the Parliamentary and Provincial Medical Aid Scheme Amendment Bill, 2025 ("draft Bill"), in Parliament. An explanatory summary of the draft Bill is hereby published in accordance with Rule 276(1)(c) of the Rules of the National Assembly (9th Edition).

The draft Bill seeks to amend the Parliamentary and Provincial Medical Aid Scheme Act, 1975 (Act No. 28 of 1975) ("principal Act"), so as to substitute compulsory membership of the Parmed Medical Aid Scheme ("PARMED") with voluntary membership.

The escalating costs of PARMED are a significant concern, as the substantial deductions from the salaries of PARMED members, to cover medical aid contributions, place a financial burden on such members. PARMED's one-size-fits-all approach fails to accommodate the diverse needs of its members, who have varying family sizes and healthcare requirements. This lack of flexibility results in inconsistencies and reinforces the argument that a single, compulsory scheme cannot effectively cater to all members, yet they have no alternative but compulsory contributions to PARMED.

These factors collectively highlight the necessity of legislative amendments to address these shortcomings, ensuring greater fairness, affordability, and choice in the provision of medical services for affected PARMED members.

The draft Bill therefore seeks to amend the principal Act by—

- (a) substituting compulsory membership of the PARMED with voluntary membership;
- (b) substituting certain outdated terminology;
- (c) ensuring that deductions for contributions to PARMED are only made from the salaries of persons who have elected to be members of PARMED;

- (d) providing for transitional arrangements; and
- (e) providing for matters connected therewith.

Interested parties and institutions are invited to submit written representations on the proposed content of the draft Bill to the Speaker of the National Assembly within 30 days of the publication of this notice. Representations can be delivered to the Speaker, New Assembly Building, Parliament Street, Cape Town; mailed to the Speaker, P O Box 15 Cape Town 8000, or emailed to speaker@parliament.gov.za and copied to parliament@actionsa.org.za.

Copies of the draft Bill may be accessed at this link: <https://www.actionsa.org.za/policy/healthcare/>