HAVE YOUR SAY

RECOGNITION OF CUSTOMARY MARRIAGES AMENDMENT BILL [B 12–2019]

The Western Cape Provincial Parliament's Standing Committee on Community Safety, Cultural Affairs and Sport invites stakeholders and interested parties to attend a public hearing on the Recognition of Customary Marriages Amendment Bill [B 12–2019] being organised as part of the Standing Committee's constitutional responsibility.

The purpose of the Amendment Bill is to regulate further the proprietary consequences of customary marriages entered into before the commencement of the Recognition of Customary Marriages Act, 1998 (Act 120 of 1998). This is in order to bring the provisions of the Act in line with the judgments of the Constitutional Court as the Court found certain provisions to be constitutionally invalid because these provisions discriminate unfairly against certain women in customary marriages. The effect of this amendment is that the proprietary consequences of a polygamous customary marriage will no longer be governed by customary law.

The public hearing is arranged as follows:

Date: 22 September 2020
Time: 09:00 – 13:00
Venue: Microsoft Teams virtual meeting

Interested persons and organisations are encouraged to attend and participate in the public hearing and to submit written input on the Amendment Bill to the Standing Committee on Community Safety, Cultural Affairs and Sport for consideration. Only input on the content of the Amendment Bill will be considered.

Please submit submissions on the Amendment Bill to Mr Waseem Matthews, Procedural Officer, either by email (wmatthews@wcpp.gov.za) or as a voice note on WhatsApp (cellphone number: 076 633 3133). Submissions must reach the Standing Committee on Community Safety, Cultural Affairs and Sport before or on **28 September 2020**. Please indicate whether a verbal presentation on the written submission will be made.

Further information and an electronic version of the Amendment Bill will be published on the Western Cape Provincial Parliament's website (www.wcpp.gov.za). Copies of the Amendment Bill will be sent to interested persons on request.

Issued by Mr RI Allen (MPP), Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Community Safety, Cultural Affairs and Sport.