

We hereby propose that Section 69 of the Constitution of Belize be AMENDED to GIVE THE VOICE AND POWER TO THE PEOPLE OF BELIZE by REQUIRING that:

1. A Bill to alter any section or provision of this Constitution shall not be regarded as passed by the House of Representatives unless on its final reading in the House the Bill is supported by the votes of not less than two-thirds of all the members of the House, and
2. A Bill to alter any section or provision of this Constitution shall not be regarded as passed by the National Assembly unless it is supported by the votes of not less than two-thirds of the SENATE, and
3. A Bill to alter any section or provision of this Constitution shall not become law (an Amendment to this Constitution) unless it is **Ratified by the votes of not less than three-fourths** of EVERY City, Town, and Village Council in the country:
 - a. Voted upon in a secret ballot in EACH City, Town and Village Council; and
 - b. In which not less than three quarters of the Members of the Council (or Boards) must vote; and
 - c. Which must be supported by the votes of not less than three-quarters of the Board/Council; and
 - d. held after an **Obligated 90 day Consultation Period**; and
 - e. during which at least **three CONSULTATIONS MUST** be held in each and every Constituency in the country; and
 - f. Consultations must be attended by at least three-quarters of every City, Town, and Village council of that particular jurisdiction.

STOP THE 9th AMENDMENT!

We Must Stand TOGETHER as ONE Nation – neither Red nor Blue, But Belizeans!

JOIN the REVOLUTION - Independence Plaza BMP

21 October 2011- 7am

Let's DEFEND OUR CONSTITUTION!

Do You Have The Courage?

STAND with Him Who IS RIGHT!

***“CANDOR (honesty) obligates us to stand with him who IS right!
COMMITMENT binds us to stand with him WHILE he REMAINS Right!
COURAGE FREES us to Part with Him when He Goes Wrong!”***

(Patrick Menzies – Inspired by A. Lincoln)

JUSTICE:

“Until the great mass of the people shall be filled with the sense of responsibility for each other's welfare, social justice can never be attained.”

Helen Keller

“Justice will not be served until those who are unaffected are as outraged as those who are” Benjamin Franklin

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“BelizeCan Patriots”



What YOU SHOULD KNOW about the 9th Amendment to the Constitution of Belize as it stands.

If Gov't keeps its promise and Deletes the other Court Ouster Provisions & Constitutional Changes!

The following SECTION of the 9th AMENDMENT is the MOST DANGEROUS & CAN Silence Our People while Empowering Gov't!

1. This Act may be cited as the

BELIZE CONSTITUTION (NINTH AMENDMENT) ACT, 2011,

and shall be read and construed as one with the Belize Constitution which, as amended, is hereinafter referred to as the Constitution.

2. Section 2 of the Constitution is hereby amended by renumbering that section as subsection (1) and by adding the following as subsection (2):-

“(2) The words “other law” occurring in subsection (1) above do not include a law to alter any of the provisions of this Constitution which is passed by the National Assembly in conformity with section 69 of the Constitution.”

The following is SECTION 2 of the Constitution as it Reads NOW:

2. *This Constitution is the supreme law of Belize and **if any other law** is inconsistent with this Constitution that other law shall, to the extent of the inconsistency, be void.*

What this section is basically saying is that ANY law made in the Nation of Belize, is subject to the CONSTITUTION of Belize, since the CONSTITUTION is the Supreme law of Belize.

Any law passed or made therefore, must be consistent with the Constitution. It cannot violate the Constitution. It must be in agreement with the Constitution. If it is not, the area of that new law that is not in accordance with the CONSTITUTION, is NOT VALID – it's VOID!

THE GOVERNMENT'S CLARIFICATION THEN IS THIS:

What the Government is basically saying, is that If the National Assembly passes a new law, and that law is a law to AMEND or CHANGE OR ADD TO the CONSTITUTION OF BELIZE; that New Law (change/amendment), would not fall under this 'RULE' or 'Condition.'

In other words, the Government CAN PASS A LAW THAT IS IN VIOLATION of THE CONSTITUTION, however; by them adding that new law TO the CONSTITUTION, that law would become a part of the Constitution, so therefore cannot be classified as Violating it, since it is a part of it!

Consider the Possibilities AFTER the Passage of this 9th Amendment:

Let's say that the Government wants to take over some land, they can pass a law which says that any private property in excess of ten (10) acres, which has a government lease, is now the property of the Government of Belize.

You of course would be upset if you have such a property, and would try to take them to court, since your rights provided in the CONSTITUTION, would be violated.

Part (e) of the first section of the Constitution protects your right of ownership of private property: **"...which preserve the right of the individual to the ownership of private property..."**

However, you would have NO recourse, since **the Government would argue in the courts** that 'they' and only 'they' have the authority vested in them by Section 69 of the Constitution and NO ONE CAN CHALLENGE their NEW LAW, since the new Section 2 (2) – proposed here in the 9th Amendment would be a part of the Constitution, subsequently: **no Amendment can be considered INCONSISTENT WITH THE CONSTITUTION even if it violates it!**

The Government **can even pass a law** which says: **"The Prime Minister Post is now a Lifetime Appointment;"** and/or that: **"No one will be permitted to speak out against the Government, since that would be considered Treason and punishable by ___ Years in Prison."** This may sound farfetched and way-out, but it would be a possible scenario if the 9th Amendment is allowed to pass in its current state.

Why not **ask the Government: "What does section 2 (2) have to do with Nationalization?"** You see folks all the other BAD LAWS that they were proposing with this Nationalization, they have 'SCRAPPED!' Are you not a bit curious to know **why then is Gov't fighting to keep in** this extra clause to amend the Constitution, since it doesn't address Nationalization?

REMINDER! **Do you recall the Preventative Detention (8th Amendment)?** Well, **nothing will be able to stop the Government from bringing that back and DETAINING any suspect**, for either Personal, Criminal or Political reasons; once that is passed! **Wake-up!**

DO YOU HAVE THE COURAGE TO STAND?

To have courage is to be willing to look unflinchingly at catastrophic circumstances and muster the will to overcome the fear. Never to fully erase and eliminate the fear, but overcome the fear; so that fear does not have the last word; nor push one into **conformity, complacency or cowardice....**

The **opposite of courage** is not simply cowardice but it's even worse than that. It **is indifference!**

Indifference to evil is **more horrifying than evil itself**; precisely because indifference to evil is contagious... There is NEVER enough courageous folk around. Too many just want to fit in... to just go with the grain... to simply opt for the illogical reasoning of nonsensical existence.

(Dr. Cornel West – Harvard – paraphrased)

INSTEAD: Let's give Belizeans the POWER by: Amending Section 69!

Whereas the constitution of Belize does not provide for the Direct Input of the People of Belize where amendments to it are concerned; and

Whereas Section 69 of the Constitution of Belize states that "the National Assembly may alter ANY of the provisions of this Constitution..." and

Whereas this section of the Constitution authorizes any *Government Administration which has the support of three-quarters of all the members of the House, to amend ANY portion of Our Constitution; and*

Whereas section 69(5A) calls for the support of a simple majority of the Senate for Part II of the Constitution to be amended; and

Whereas most Government Administration will automatically have a simple majority of the Senate, seeing that section 61 gives the Prime Minister the Power to appoint half of the members of the Senate, and the President; **and**

Whereas the Senators are NOT elected by the people of Belize;