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MEDIA RELEASE Immigration Act Passed in Error 1 December 2021

A clerical oversight has resulted in the wrong version of the new Immigration Act being passed by Parliament last week and assented to by the Queen's Representative. Parliament will now need to repeal the incorrect piece of legislation and instead progress the intended Immigration Bill through the Parliamentary process.

The Clerk of Parliament Tangata Vainerere says, "It was a most unfortunate error. I have since introduced a new checklist for the preparation of Parliamentary documents for tabling in the House, in order to avoid incidents like this occurring in the future."

What will become the Cook Islands Immigration Act 2021, is a much anticipated piece of legislation which will progressively replace existing Immigration law and provide Immigration with a modern, and robust legal framework from which to provide its services.

The Act inadvertently passed last week will be repealed, and the intended Immigration Bill will be tabled tomorrow to begin its passage through the House and into law.

ENDS: