



## ANALYSIS

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## 2011, No. 5

An Act to amend the House of Ariki Act 1966 and related matters

(14 July 2011)

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Parliament of the Cook Islands in Session assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. Short title – This Act may be cited as the House of Ariki Amendment Act 2011 and shall be read together with and deemed part of the House of Ariki Act 1966 (herein referred to as “the principal Act”).

2. Term of membership – The principal Act is amended by omitting section 5 and substituting the following -

“5. Term of Membership – (1) Subject to sections 7 and 9, membership of the House, once appointed, shall be for life.

(2) Where membership is terminated or vacated or the member dies, his or her seat shall remain vacant until a successor is appointed.”

3. Procedure – Section 11(6) of the principal Act is amended by -  
(a) inserting after the word “shall”, where it first appears, the following -

“, unless earlier terminated or vacated or the member dies,”

(b) deleting the expression “until his term as a member of the House expires” and inserting the following -

“for a period of four (4) years”

4. Transition and savings – (1) On the coming into force of this Act -  
(a) the members of the House who have subscribed to the oath of allegiance, shall continue to be members of the House in

accordance with section 5 without the need to subscribe again to the oath of allegiance; and

- (b) the members who have not subscribed to the oath of allegiance, shall at the first meeting of the House subscribe to the oath of allegiance and shall be accorded membership in accordance with this Act.

(2) The member holding office as President of the House of Ariki, shall continue to hold that office until the next election, in which case the new term of office will be for a period of four (4) years in accordance with section 11(6).

(3) For the avoidance of doubt, the member holding office as President of the House of Ariki will be eligible for re-election at the next election.

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This Act is administered by the House of Ariki