

**REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI**  
(No. 1 of 1997)

I assent,

Beretitenti  
*Assented: 4<sup>th</sup> July 1997*

**AN ACT TO AMEND THE CITIZENSHIP ACT**

Commencement:  
1997

MADE by the Maneaba ni Maungatabu and Assented to by the Beretitenti.

**Short Title**

1. This Act may be cited as the Citizenship (Amendment) Act 1997.

**Amendment of section 7 (2)**

2. Section 7 of the Citizenship Act (Cap. 8A) is amended in subsection (2) by repealing the words –

“the Commission may grant the application but otherwise shall refuse it” occurring in the twenty third and twenty fourth lines and substituting two new paragraphs (j) and (k) as follows –

“(j) “the Commission shall make recommendation to the Cabinet regarding the application; and”; and

“(k) the Beretitenti, acting in accordance with the advice of the Cabinet, may grant the application, but otherwise shall refuse it.”

### **Amendment of section 10**

**3.** Section 10 of the Citizenship Act (Cap. 8A) is amended as follows –

(a) in subsection (2) –

(i) by inserting between the word “Commission” and “if” occurring in the third line the following words –

“shall make recommendation to the Cabinet regarding the application, and”; and

(ii) by inserting between the word “if” and “satisfied” occurring in the third line the following words –

“the Beretitenti, acting in accordance with the advice of the Cabinet is”; and

(b) in subsection (3) by repealing the word “Commission” occurring in the first line and substituting it with the following words –

“the Beretitenti, acting in accordance with the advice of the Cabinet”.

## **THE CITIZENSHIP (AMENDMENT) ACT 1997**

### **EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

Under the present Citizenship Act, the Citizenship Commission has the authority to grant citizenship by naturalisation after it has considered the application from people applying under section 7.

This amending Act removes that power of granting citizenship by naturalisation from the Citizenship Commission and vests it with Cabinet.

The procedures available under section 7 of applying to the Citizenship Commission remains unchanged.

Likewise in section 10, the Citizenship Commission's power to grant citizenship is replaced at subsection (2) and (3) by the Beretitenti, acting in accordance with the advice of the Cabinet.

Michael N. Takabwe  
Attorney General