

[AS PASSED BY THE SENATE]

A

Bill

further to amend the Elections Act, 2017

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Elections Act, 2017 (XXXIII of 2017), for the purpose hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. Short title and commencement.- (1) This Act may be called the Elections (Amendment) Act, 2017.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Amendment of section 203, Act XXXIII of 2017.- In the Elections Act, 2017 (XXXIII of 2017), in section 203, in sub-section (1), for the full stop occurring at the end a "colon" shall be substituted and thereafter the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:-

"Provided that the person shall not be appointed or serve as an office-bearer of a political party if he is not qualified to be, or is disqualified from being, elected or chosen as a Member of Majlis-e-Shoora (Parliament) under any law for the time being in force."

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Subsequent to the enactment of the Elections Act, 2017 (XXXIII of 2017) an anomalous position has arisen in Pakistan wherein a person disqualified to be a Member of Parliament can become an office bearer including the head of any Political Party.

2. This may enable an unelected person, who is disqualified by a court of competent jurisdiction to be a Member of Parliament, to determine the policies and take decisions of any Party from outside the Parliament.

3. The Parliament itself is thus exposed to becoming hostage to a person who himself is barred from entering it.

4. A person who is not eligible to be elected as a Member of Parliament on account of being disqualified to be a Member of Parliament should not become an office bearer of any political party. The Bill is designed to achieve the aforesaid objectives.

SENATOR SYED SHIBLI FARAZ

SENATOR TAJ HAIDER

SENATOR SIRAJUL HAQ

SENATOR KAMIL ALI AGHA

SENATOR MOHAMMAD AZAM KHAN SWATI

SENATOR SALEEM MANDVIWALA

SENATOR MOHSIN AZIZ

SENATOR MUKHTIAR AHMED DHAMRAH @ AAJIZ

SENATOR NAUMAN WAZIR KHATTAK

SENATOR LIAQAT KHAN TARAKAI

SENATOR BRIG. (R) JOHN KENNETH WILLIAMS

SENATOR SAMINA SAEED

MEMBERS-IN-CHARGE