**MEDIA STATEMENT**

**HOME AFFAIRS COMMITTEE DEFERS FURTHER DISCUSSION ON ELECTORAL AMENDMENT BILL TO A LATER DATE TO ALLOW CONSULTATION**

**Parliament, Tuesday, 27 September 2022 –** The Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs has, following the receipt of a report on the public submissions made after the opening of the second window of public consultations, decided to allow Members of Parliament to consult on proposals made to enable the committee to make final decisions on the Bill.

The second window of public consultations was necessitated by the approval given by the National Assembly on 1 September 2022 allowing the committee to make substantive amendments to the Bill.

While various recommendations were made in the submissions, one key proposal was the call to reduce the number of signatures an independent candidate must submit to support their candidature. The committee had previously resolved to legislate this requirement at 30% of the quota of votes required for a seat in the previous similar election.

The committee has also reiterated its support for the payment of an election deposit as a mechanism to prevent spurious candidatures. The committee will, following these consultations, make substantive decisions that will enable the legal experts to incorporate the amendment into the A List.

Meanwhile, the committee remains committed to concluding the process but is steadfast in its commitment to processes that are thorough and considered to ensure that the Bill meets constitutional muster.

**ISSUED BY THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMUNICATION SERVICES ON BEHALF OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON HOME AFFAIRS, MR MOSA CHABANE.**

**For media enquiries or interviews with the Chairperson, please contact the committee’s Media Officer:
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