**MEDIA STATEMENT**

**HOME AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ADOPTS A-LIST OF THE ELECTORAL AMENDMENT BILL**

**Parliament, Friday, 7 October 2022 –** The Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs has today adopted the A-list of the Electoral Amendment Bill. This presents a major step toward the conclusion of the process the committee initiated this year following the tabling of the Bill in Parliament. The committee is satisfied that the process has been rigorous, inclusive and detailed to ensure that the Bill encapsulates the spirit of the Constitutional Court Judgement.

The adoption of the A-List Bill with minor amendments follows the consideration of public submissions made after opening the second window of public consultations. The second window of public consultations was necessitated by the approval given by the National Assembly (NA) on 1 September 2022 allowing the committee to make substantive amendments on the Bill.

Some of the amendments to the original Bill include the dropping of the cooling off period, the adoption of the 20% quota of votes required for a seat in the previous elections as the threshold of signatures an independent candidate must submit to support their candidature, the requirement for an election deposit, a quantum of which will be determined through regulations by the Electoral Commission of South Africa. The committee remains of the view that the Bill is fair and balanced for both independent candidates and political parties.

The committee has stressed its appreciation, especially to those individuals and organisations that have taken time to participate in the legislative-making process. Their inputs have strengthened the Bill and have contributed immensely in clarifying some aspects. Furthermore, their inputs have assisted Members of the committee in their deliberations on the Bill.

The B-List of the Bill will now be developed for the committee to consider before presentation to the NA. This will represent another step forward in concluding the process on the side of the NA.

**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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