

Parliamentary NewsWatch

Keeping Business Informed.

19 December 2011 Issue 2 Vol. 3



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2011 Roundup

THE CEO REVIEWS BUSA'S PARTICIPATION
AT PARLIAMENT THIS YEAR

And we recap the laws that passed through
the legislature in 2011



BUSA
BUSINESS UNITY SOUTH AFRICA

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A Message from the CEO

MS NOMAXABISO MAJOKWENI



***F*or Business Unity South Africa, 2011 proved to be an excellent year of engagement with South Africa's Parliament.**

With South Africa hosting COP17, climate change was high on Parliament's agenda this year. BUSA put forward business' view at hearings on the National Climate Change Response White and Green Papers. We were also invited by Parliament to participate in a National Consultative Seminar on Climate Change hosted by the Legislature in Cape Town in October. Thank you to Dr Lorraine Lotter for leading BUSA's participation at these climate change engagements.

BUSA also represented business at parliamentary hearings on a number of key issues during the course of the year, including the 2011 National Budget, the Medium Term Budget Policy Statement, the Walmart/Massmart hearings, and draft legislation on tax laws, skills development, immigration and the restructuring of the court system. Our thanks go to all members who contributed their time and presence to strengthen BUSA's participation at Parliament in 2011.

In 2011, the BUSA Parliament Office (BPO) in Cape Town continued to keep our members informed of the latest developments at Parliament. The BPO also focussed its attention this year on strengthening relationships with key parliamentary officials, thus opening the doors of communication between committees of the National Assembly and our members. We encourage members to make use of the BPO to engage with the legislature and its committees.

Looking towards 2012, BUSA has been invited to appear early in the new year before the Portfolio Committee on Trade and Industry and the Standing Committee on Finance to discuss issues affecting the economy and business. We invite members to participate in these and other parliamentary engagements throughout the course of the year as they are vital opportunities to help shape a regulatory environment that is conducive to business.

Wishing you a restful holiday and productive new year,

Nomaxabiso Majokweni
CEO: Business Unity South Africa

Bills PASSED by Parliament in 2011

With Parliament currently in recess, deliberations on Bills have effectively been put on hold until 2012. In this issue we bring you a review of the laws passed by Parliament in 2011, as well as a list of Bills remaining tabled at Parliament until 2012.

Bills passed by Parliament and awaiting the President's assent

South African Post Office SOC Ltd Bill [B2-2010]
Higher Education Laws A/B [B14-2011]
Adjustments Appropriation Bill [B18-2011]
Taxation Laws A/B [B19-2011]
Taxation Laws 2nd A/B [B20-2-11]

Bills passed by Parliament but still to be sent to the President for Assent

Intellectual Property Laws A/B [B8-2010]
Tax Administration Bill [B11-2011]
Skills Development A/B [B16-2011]

Bills Passed by Parliament, Assented to, and published in the Government Gazette

Sectional Titles Schemes Management Bill [B20-2010]
Merchant Shipping (Safe Containers Convention) [B31-2010]
Immigration A/B [B32-2010]
Rural Development and Land Reform General [B33-2010]
Basic Education Laws A/B [B36-2010]
Companies A/B [B40-2010]
State Liability A/B [B2-2010]
Appropriation Bill [B3-2011]
Division of Revenue Bill (Reprint) [B4-2011]
Division of Revenue A/B [B17-2011]

Bills BEFORE Parliament

as at 9 December

BEFORE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (NA) FOR SECOND READING / (FINAL) CONSIDERATION

Constitution 18th A/B [B8B-2011]

RETURNED TO NA FOR CONSIDERATION OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES (NCOP) AMENDMENTS

Further Education & Training Colleges A/B [B13D-2011]

BEFORE NA COMMITTEES

Protection of Personal Information Bill [B 9-2009] – Justice
 Constitution 17th A/B [B6-2011] – Justice
 Superior Courts Bill [B 7-11 (s75)] – Justice
 Rental Housing A/B [B 21-2011] – Human Settlements
 SA Weather Service A/B [B22-2011] – Water & Env Affairs
 SA Languages Bill [B 23-2011] – Arts & Culture (referred to NHTL)
 National Health A/B [B 24-2011] – Health

BEFORE NCOP COMMITTEES

Protection of State Information Bill [B6B-2010] – Ad Hoc Committee

For more information on the Bills mentioned,
 email bpo@busa.org.za. Note that some Bills not
 concerning business have been excluded from our lists.

The BUSA Parliamentary Office
wishes our readers
a happy festive season
and prosperous new year!

2012

Those looking towards the new year can note that parliamentary committees will resume their work on 17 January 2012. The official opening of Parliament and State of the Nation Address will take place on 9 February, while the Budget Speech is schedule for 22 February.