

## THE PNG ICAC BILL:

 an update on progressThe Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) is a constitutional office that is responsible for investigating corrupt conduct by public officials and private persons. ICAC also aims to enhance the integrity of public administration. The ICAC Bill was gazetted and had a $1^{\text {st }}$ Reading in Parliament. This process is outlined below with then information drawn from Section 19A and 20 of the Parliamentary Standing Orders.

## WHAT HAS HAPPENED SO FAR:




BILL GAZETTED
The Bill was published on the ICAC was gazetted on the $17^{\text {th }}$ of October 2019.
 2020, the Department of Justice \& Attorney General presented a brief to the Committee to be included in the recommendations that the Committee puts forward to Parliament.

In the Second Reading in Parliament on $3^{\text {rd }}$ June 2020, the ICAC Bill had its First Vote and was voted through by all 92 Members of Parliament present. As required by the Constitution (s14 (a)(b)), the Third reading would be done in a different meeting of Parliament and no earlier than two months after the Second Reading. During this adjournment of Parliament, The Permanent Parliamentary Committee on Constitutional Laws, Acts and Subordinate Legislations had a Public Briefing on Monday $13^{\text {th }}$ July and received written submissions and oral presentation on the Bill up till $19^{\text {th }}$ July 2020.


## COMMITTEE REPORT

Prior to the second reading of the Bill, the report from the Permanent Parliamentary Committee on Constitutional Laws, Acts and Subordinate was presented to Parliament.

## SECOND READING

On the $3^{\text {rd }}$ of June 2020, the ICAC Bill was read in Parliament for the second time. This was also the first opportunity for any
Member of Parliament who had any issues with the Bill to raise and debate on the floor of Parliament.

The ICAC Bill will go through a 3rd Reading and the second opportunity for debate; then there will be the 2nd Vote amongst MPs present. Once the required majority votes in favor of the Bill, the Speaker will then certify the Bill to become a Law and will then be printed in the National Gazette as an Act of Parliament.


COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

There were no amendments recommended by the Chairman of the Committee during the Parliament sitting on the $3^{\text {rd }}$ of June 2020.


FIRST VOTE
On the $3^{\text {rd }}$ of June 2020 an absolute of majority of 92 MPs voted for the ICAC Bill.

## WHAT'S NEXT?



ADJOURNMENT
During the same Parliament sitting in June 2020, the Speaker of Parliament ordered that the third reading of the ICAC Bill be adjourned for at least two months in accordance with the Constitution. During this period the Permanent Parliamentary Committee on Constitutional Laws, Acts and Subordinate can continue to receive submissions.



ICAC ENALTED


GAZETTING OF THE ICAC ACT
The final part of this process is to gazette the new Act of Parliament. The Act takes full effect as soon as it is gazette.


CERTIFICATION BY THE SPEAKER
The ICAC Bill becomes an Act of Parliament on the certification of the Speaker. This means that it officially becomes a law of Papua New Guinea.


SECOND VOTE
The Speaker will then put forward the question that the Bill be read a 3rd time. This will be decided by a vote. If the Bill receives the required majority, it shall become a law upon certification by the Speaker.
If the Bill does not receive the support of the required majority, the process lapses


THIRD READING The Bill is read a third time in Parliament and this would also be the second opportunity for Members of Parliament to debate if they have any issues with the Bill.

