

As  
**[ ~~TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE~~ ]**

**A**

**BILL**

*further to amend the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, hereinafter referred to as the Constitution*

**WHEREAS** it is expedient further to amend the Constitution, for the purpose hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

**1. Short title and commencement.**- (1) This Act may be called the Constitution (Twenty-Second Amendment) Act, 2012.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

**2. Amendment of Article 63 of the Constitution.**- In the Constitution, in Article 63, in clause (1), for paragraph (c), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“(c) he ceases to be a citizen of Pakistan, or has acquired citizenship of a foreign State except a State with which the Federal Government has a dual nationality arrangement under the law, before or after the commencement of the Constitution (Twenty-Second Amendment) Act, 2012.”.

**STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS**

Pakistan is one such country which permits the holding of a dual citizenship/nationality in terms of the Pakistan Citizenship Act, 1951 (Act II of 1951). Many countries of the world permit the holding of dual nationalities/citizenships. A direct result of this is that in those countries persons holding dual nationalities/citizenships can exercise the right to vote and can also run for Parliamentary elections. Our country's economy has always been considerably supported by overseas Pakistanis, whose allegiance to Pakistan should not be in doubt. It has been a long-standing demand of the overseas Pakistanis that there should be no impediment in their way to run for elections for the Parliament. They are deeply concerned with events in Pakistan and are keen to play an effective role and want to contribute to national cause. Therefore, through amendment in Article 63(1)(c), the constitutional bar on the dual nationality holders to be members of the Parliament is being lifted.

The Bill is designed to achieve the said object.

**FAROOQ HAMID NAEK**  
**Minister for Law, Justice & Parliamentary Affairs**

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT REGARDING CONSTITUTION  
(TWENTY-SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL, 2012.**

<b><u>Existing Provision</u></b>	<b><u>Proposed Amendment</u></b>
<p>Article 63(1) A person shall be disqualified from being elected or chosen as, and from being, a member of the Majlis-e-Shoora (Parliament), if -</p> <p>(c) he ceases to be a citizen of Pakistan, or acquires the citizenship of a foreign State; or</p>	<p>Article 63(1) A person shall be disqualified from being elected or chosen as, and from being, a member of the Majlis-e-Shoora (Parliament), if-</p> <p>“(c) he ceases to be a citizen of Pakistan, or has acquired citizenship of a foreign State except a State with which the Federal Government has a dual nationality arrangement under the law, before or after the commencement of the Constitution (Twenty-Second Amendment) Act, 2012.”</p>