AS [TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE]

A

Bill

to amend the Federal Ombudsman Institutional Reforms Act, 2013 (XIV of 2013).

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Federal Ombudsman Institutional Reforms Act, 2013 (XIV of 2013) for the purpose hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

- 1. Short title and commencement.—(1) This Act may be called Federal Ombudsman Institutional Reforms (Amendment) Act, 2018.
 - (2) It shall come into force at once.
- 2. Amendment in section 3 of Act XIV of 2013.—In the Federal Ombudsman Institutional Reform Act, 2013 (XIV of 2013), hereinafter referred to as "the said Act", in section 3, for the "colon", a "full stop" shall be substituted and thereafter, the proviso shall be omitted.
- 3. Amendment in section 8 of Act XIV of 2013.— In the said Act, in section 8, after the word "President" the words "or a person nominated by the President" shall be inserted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Under section 3 of the Federal Ombudsman Institutional Reform Act 2013, the Ombudsman may continue to hold office after expiry of his tenure till his successor enters upon the office. While section 4 of the same Act provides an elaborate system of Acting Ombudsman if, at any time, the office of the Ombudsman is vacant or he is unable to perform the functions. In view of this, section 3 of Act needs to be revisited so that in case of a vacancy, the incumbent Ombudsman may not continue for an indefinite period. Similarly, President may have the option to assign the function of oath taking to another person under section 8 of Act. This Bill gives effect to these proposals.

MINISTER INCHARGE