

<sup>As</sup>  
**[TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE]**

**A**

**BILL**

*further to amend the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017*

**WHEREAS** it is expedient further to amend the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017 (XXXIV of 2017) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

**1. Short title and commencement.-** (1) This Act may be called the Right of Access to Information (Amendment) Act, 2024.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

**2. Amendment of section 2, Act XXXIV of 2017.-** In the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017 (XXXIV of 2017), in section 2, in sub-section (ix), paragraph (c), shall be omitted.

**STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS**

Secretariat of the Senate and National Assembly are Constitutional bodies. Work of Parliament is not only extremely significant but also highly sensitive. In view of the Constitutional sanctity provided to the secretariats of the Parliament, Senate and National Assembly do not fall under the definition of Public bodies, similar to the Supreme Court of Pakistan, which is not included in the definition of public bodies in the said Act. The sanctity granted to the Parliament and its procedures in Article 69 of the Constitution also needs to be taken into account in the matter. Moreover, decision on information related to Senate and National Assembly is strictly the prerogative of Chairman and Speaker, respectively. This amendment in the Act is proposed to ensure observance of above said sanctity and privacy of the institution to perform its Constitutional and fiduciary duty to the State and its people.

**SENATOR SAJJAD HUSSAIN TURI  
SENATOR WALID IQBAL  
SENATOR MUHAMMAD ALI KHAN SAIF  
SENATOR MANZOOR AHMED  
SENATOR MIRZA MUHAMMAD AFRIDI  
MEMBERS-IN-CHARGE**