

**THE BENEFITS OF FORMER PRESIDENTS AND  
FORMER VICE-PRESIDENTS BILL, 2026**

**MEMORANDUM**

The objects of this Bill are to —

- (a) provide for the retirement benefits of former Presidents and former Vice Presidents of the Republic;
- (b) repeal and replace the Benefits of Former Presidents Act, 1993; and
- (c) provide for matters connected with, or incidental to, the foregoing.

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**THE BENEFITS OF FORMER PRESIDENTS AND  
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ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

*Section*

1. Short title
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6. Benefits of former President and former Vice-President on remarriage of surviving spouse
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9. Former Vice-President assuming office of President
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11. Repeal of Cap. 15, and saving and transitional provisions

SCHEDULES



# A BILL

ENTITLED

**An Act to provide for the retirement benefits of former Presidents and former Vice-Presidents of the Republic; repeal and replace the Benefits of Former Presidents Act, 1993; and to provide for matters connected with, or incidental to, the foregoing.**

ENACTED by the Parliament of Zambia.

Enactment

1. This Act may be cited as the Benefits of Former Presidents and Former Vice-Presidents Act, 2026.

Short title

2. (1) This Act shall apply to all former Presidents.

Application

5 (2) This Act applies to a former Vice-President who served as a Vice-President of the Republic, or in an equivalent office, from 1964.

(3) Despite subsection (2), a former Vice-President referred to under subsection (2) shall only be entitled to the retirement benefits  
10 from the commencement of this Act and shall not accrue benefits retrospectively.

*Benefits of Former Presidents  
and Former Vice-Presidents*

**6 No. of 2026]**

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Interpretation	<b>3.</b> In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —	
	“active politics” means the doing of an act indicating a person’s intention to hold an elective or appointive office, or holding an elective or appointive office, in a political party or in an organisation whose main aim is the furtherance of political objectives;	5
Act No. 12 of 2022	“child of the family” has the meaning assigned to the words “child of family” under the Children’s Code Act, 2022;	
Cap. 1	“Consolidated Fund” means the Consolidated Fund established under the Constitution;	10
Cap. 1	“emoluments” has the meaning assigned to the word in the Constitution;	
	“executive house” means a house comprising a kitchen, living room, dining room and at least four bedrooms, two of which shall have a sleeping space with an attached bedroom and toilet, and with servant’s quarters on the same premises as the house;	15
Cap. 1	“former President” means a person who, having served as President of the Republic, vacates office in the manner specified under the Constitution;	20
Cap. 1	“former Vice-President” means a person who, having served as Vice-President of the Republic, or in an equivalent office, from 1964, vacates office in the manner specified under the Constitution;	
Cap. 464	“motor vehicle” has the meaning assigned to the words in the Road Traffic Act;	25
Cap.1	“political party” has the meaning assigned to the words in the Constitution;	
	“President” means the President of the Republic;	
	“Vice-President” means the Vice-President of the Republic;	30
Cap. 15	“repealed Act” means the Benefits of Former Presidents Act; and	
Cap. 1	“Republic” has the meaning assigned to the word in the Constitution.	

4. (1) A former President shall be entitled to the following benefits: Retirement  
benefits of  
former  
President

- 5 (a) a tax-free monthly salary at the rate of eighty percent of the emoluments of the incumbent President;
- (b) a furnished executive house built or bought in the Republic by the Government or in *lieu* of the house, a one-off cash payment in currency units, as prescribed, that the former President shall use to build or buy a house in the Republic at a place of choice of the former President;
- 10 (c) within a period not exceeding six months from the date of vacating office, two drivers and two motor vehicles;
- (d) free maintenance of the vehicles referred to under paragraph (c) and fuel for the vehicles as Cabinet may determine; and
- 15 (e) the other benefits set out in the First Schedule.

(2) Despite subsection (1)(b), a former President shall, immediately the former President vacates office, be entitled to housing accommodation as the Government may determine until the executive house referred to under subsection (1)(b) is built or  
20 bought.

(3) A surviving spouse and child of the family of a former President shall, where the former President who is entitled to the benefits referred to under subsection (1) dies while in, or after vacating, office be entitled to the following:

- 25 (a) a surviving spouse and child of the family who has not attained the age of twenty one years shall be entitled, jointly, to —
- (i) a tax-free monthly pension at the rate of fifty percent of the emoluments of the incumbent  
30 President;
- (ii) one driver and one motor vehicle; and
- (iii) free maintenance of the vehicle referred to under sub-paragraph (ii) and fuel for the vehicle as Cabinet may determine;

- (b) a surviving spouse and child of the family shall be entitled, jointly, to a furnished executive house built or bought in the Republic by the Government at a place of choice of the surviving spouse, if the executive house referred to under subsection (1) (b) is not built or bought for the former President; and 5
- (c) a surviving spouse shall , in addition to the benefits referred to under paragraphs (a) and (b), be entitled to the benefits referred to under items 5, 6, 7 and 8 of the First Schedule.
- Retirement benefits of former Vice-President
5. (1) A former Vice-President shall be entitled to the following benefits: 10
- (a) a tax-free monthly salary at the rate of eighty per cent of the emoluments of the incumbent Vice-President;
- (b) within a period not exceeding six months from the date of vacating office, one driver and one motor vehicle; 15
- (c) free maintenance of the vehicle referred to under paragraph (b) and fuel for the vehicle as Cabinet may determine; and
- (d) the other benefits set out in the Second Schedule.
- (2) A former Vice-President who assumed office from August, 2016, shall, in addition to the benefits referred to under subsection (1), be entitled to a furnished executive house built or bought in the Republic by the Government or in *lieu* of the house, a one off cash payment equivalent to forty-five percent of the one-off cash payment paid to a former President referred to under section 4(1)(b). 25
- (3) The one off cash payment referred to under subsection (2) shall be used to build or buy an executive house in the Republic at a place of choice of the former Vice-President.
- (4) A surviving spouse and child of the family, who has not attained the age of twenty-one years, of a former Vice-President shall, where the former Vice-President who is entitled to the retirement benefits referred to under subsection (1) dies while in, or after vacating, office be entitled, jointly, to a tax free monthly pension at the rate of fifty percent of the emoluments of the incumbent Vice-President. 30 35

(5) Where a former Vice-President dies while in, or after vacating, office, the retirement benefits referred to under —

(a) subsection (1) shall not form part of the estate of the former Vice-President; and

5 (b) subsections (2),(3) and (4) shall form part of the estate of the former Vice-President.

6. A surviving spouse of a former President or former Vice-President who remarries shall cease to be entitled to the benefits referred to under sections 4(3) and 5(4).

Benefits of former President and former Vice-President on remarriage of surviving spouse

10 7. (1) The retirement benefits of a former President and former Vice-President referred to under sections 4 and 5 shall not be paid or provided, if that former President or former Vice-President —

Circumstances that render retirement benefits not payable

(a) is in receipt of a salary from the Government;

(b) is engaged in active politics;

15 (c) vacates office on the grounds of a violation of the Constitution or of misconduct; or

(d) is convicted of an offence under a written law and sentenced to a term of imprisonment exceeding six months without an option of a fine.

20 (2) Despite subsection (1), the retirement benefits of a former President and former Vice-President referred to under this Act shall, in the case of —

(a) paragraph (a), become payable if the former President or former Vice-President ceases to be in receipt of a salary from the Government; or

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(b) paragraph (b), not become payable if the former President or former Vice-President ceases to be engaged in active politics.

30 (3) Despite subsection (1) (b) and (2) (b), the executive house referred to under sections 4 (1) (b) and 5 (2) shall be retained by a former President or former Vice-President where that former President or former Vice-President engages in active politics or ceases to be engaged in active politics.

Funeral  
benefits of  
former  
President  
and former  
Vice-  
President

**8.** (1) The funeral benefits of a former President and former Vice-President who dies while in, or after vacating, office shall be prescribed.

(2) A funeral of a former President and former Vice-President who dies while in, or after vacating, office shall be administered as prescribed. 5

Former Vice-  
President  
assuming  
office of  
President

**9.** A former Vice-President who assumes the office of President shall, on vacating the office of President, only be entitled to the benefits specified under section 4.

Retirement  
benefits to  
be charge on  
Consolidated  
Fund

**10.** The retirement benefits referred to under this Act shall be a charge on the Consolidated Fund. 10

Repeal of  
Cap. 15, and  
savings and  
transitional  
provisions

**11.** (1) The Benefits of Former Presidents Act is repealed.

(2) Despite subsection (1), the retirement benefits that are due to a former President under the repealed Act shall remain valid as if the retirement benefits were paid in accordance with this Act. 15

FIRST SCHEDULE  
(Section 4(1)(e))

OTHER BENEFITS FOR FORMER PRESIDENT

1. An office.
2. One personal secretary.
3. Three security persons.
4. One Administrative Assistant, who shall be at the level of Deputy Permanent Secretary.
5. Minimum of three house employees.
6. A diplomatic passport for the former President and spouse.
7. Medical insurance for the former President and spouse.
8. Foreign travel of up to two trips per annum.
9. Local travel of up to two trips per annum.
10. Twenty four hours security service comprising of three security officers.

SECOND SCHEDULE

(Section 5(1)(d))

OTHER BENEFITS FOR FORMER VICE-PRESIDENT

1. Diplomatic passport for the former Vice-President and spouse.
2. Medical insurance for the former Vice-President and spouse.
3. Foreign travel of up to one trip per annum.
4. Local travel of up to one trip per annum.
5. Twenty four hours security service comprising of two security officers.

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