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DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION

NO. 8178 **12 November 2026**

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO INTRODUCE CHILDREN'S AMENDMENT BILL, 2026, IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND PUBLICATION OF EXPLANATORY SUMMARY OF BILL

Notice is hereby given in terms of Rule 276(1)*(b)* of the Rules of the National Assembly that the Minister of Basic Education intends to introduce the Children's Amendment Bill, 2026 in the National Assembly shortly.

The Explanatory Summary of the Bill is hereby published in accordance with Rule 276(1)*(c)* of the Rules of the National Assembly.

The Bill amends numerous provisions of the Children's Act, which is administered by the Department of Social Development. In summary, the Bill aims to amend the Children's Act, 2005, so as to:

(a) insert new definitions;
(b) to provide for a strategy on early childhood development;
(c) to provide for data collection on early childhood development;
(d) to provide for funding of early childhood development programmes;
(e) to provide for norms and standards for early childhood development programmes;
(f) to provide for registration and conditional registration procedures;
(g) to provide for responsibilities of organs of state in relation to early childhood development programmes;
(h) and to provide for matters connected therewith.

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A copy of the Bill can be found on the websites of the Department and Parliamentary Monitoring Group at http://www.dbe.gov.za and http://www.pmg.gov.za and may, after introduction, also be obtained from the Government Printers, Cape Town (telephone number: 021-465 7531).

MS S GWARUBE, MP
Minister of Basic Education
Date: 10 November 2026