

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 2916.**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 23/05/2025**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 22/2025**

**2916. Mr S T D Louw (ANC) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

(a) By what date does she intend to release the regulations for the Basic Education Laws Amendment Act, Act 32 of 2024, and (b) what are the expected time frames for the implementation of the specified regulations?

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#### QUESTION 2916.

#### Response

(a) The Department of Basic Education (DBE) is currently finalising the draft national regulations required to support the implementation of the **Basic Education Laws Amendment Act, 2024 (Act No. 32 of 2024)** (BELA Act). These regulations will provide practical and procedural clarity on key provisions of the 2024 amendments to the **South African Schools Act** and the **Employment of Educators Act** introduced by the BELA Act.

In accordance with the relevant legislative requirements, including section 61 of the South African Schools Act, these draft regulations will undergo public consultation before finalisation. The **draft regulations will be published for public comment from the end of June 2025.**

(b) Following the public comment period and internal revision processes, the Minister of Basic Education hopes to **gazette the finalised regulations before the end of the 2025 calendar year with these taking effect from the beginning of the 2026 school year.** This is intended to ensure that implementation of these regulations can be accommodated from the start of, rather than during, a school year.

It must be emphasised, however, that the **implementation of the BELA Act itself commenced on 24 December 2024**, as proclaimed by the President in terms of section 54 of the Act (Proclamation Notice 237 of 2024, published in *Government Gazette* No. 51836 of 24 December 2024). While the development of national regulations, norms and standards and policy will support implementation, **the absence of regulations does not delay or suspend implementation of the 2024 amendments to the South African Schools Act and Employment of Educators Act**, which have been in force and effect since 24 December 2025.

The DBE remains committed to ensuring that the development of regulations is consultative, practical and aligned with the overall aim of improving quality, governance, equity and accountability within the basic education sector in the best interests of learners.