

North West Provincial Legislature to Conduct Public Hearings on North West Parks Board Bill, 2018

On Friday, 11 May 2018, the North West Provincial Legislature's Standing Committee on Legislative Review and Implementation of House Resolutions will be conducting public hearings on North West Parks Board Bill, 2018 at Embassy Hall in Mahikeng; Mabodisa Community Hall in Moruleng ; Boipelo Community Hall in Reivilo and Ga- Matlabe Community Hall in Ikageng.

The Bill seeks to provide for the establishment, management and control of protected areas in the North West Province; to provide for the repeal of the North West Parks Board Act, 2015 (Act No. 3 of 2015); to provide for the continued existence of the North West Parks Board; to determine the objects, powers, duties and functions of the North West Parks Board; to determine the manner in which the North West Parks Board is to be managed, governed, staffed and financed; and to provide for matters incidental thereto.

This comes after, the Legislature was advised through a legal opinion sought from counsel in 2017 that the current North West Parks Board Act does not comply with prescribed provisions in the Public Finance Management Act, 1999. The legislature therefore decided to refer this matter to its Standing Committee on Legislature Affairs and Implementation of House Resolutions to advise on the cause of action to be undertaken.

The Standing Committee has therefore decided to develop a draft bill to address the shortcomings identified in the Act.

Members of the media are invited to attend the public hearings and can contact Namhla Luhabe on 079 527 0628 for further information.