A Bill to amend the Karnataka Epidemic Diseases Act, 2020.

Whereas it is expedient to amend the Karnataka Epidemic Diseases Act, 2020 (Karnataka Act 26 of 2020) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

Be it enacted by the Karnataka State Legislature in the seventy first year of the Republic of India, as follows:-

1. Short title and commencement.- (1) This Act may be called the Karnataka Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Act, 2020.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Amendment of section 5.- In the Karnataka Epidemic Diseases Act, 2020 (Karnataka Act 26 of 2020) (hereinafter referred to as the Principal Act), in section 5,-

(i) after sub-section (3), the following shall be inserted, namely:-

“(3A) whoever contravenes the provisions of sub-section (1) shall be punished with such fine as may be prescribed in rules or in regulations, which
may extend to fifty thousand rupees or with imprisonment for a term which may extend up to three months or with both.”

(ii) in sub-section (4), the figure and brackets “(1)” shall be omitted.

3. **Substitution of section 10**.- For section 10 of the Principal Act, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“10. **Composition of certain offences**.- (1) Any offence punishable under the provisions of sub-section (3A) of section 5 committed before or after commencement of the Karnataka Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Act, 2020 may either before or after institution of prosecution be compounded by such officer authorised by the Government, on payment of such amount as may be notified by the Government. On such compounding, an offender, if in custody shall be discharged and no further proceedings shall be taken against him in respect of such offence.

(2) Any offence punishable under sub-section (4) of section 5, committed before or after the commencement of the Karnataka Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Act, 2020 may be compounded with permission of the court, by a person against whom such act of violence is committed.”

**STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS**

It is considered necessary to amend the Karnataka Epidemic Diseases Act, 2020 (Karnataka Act 26 of 2020) to make provisions for imposition of penalty for contravention of rules and regulations made under the Act and for compounding of such offences.

Hence, the Bill.

**FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM**

There is no extra expenditure involved in the proposed Legislative measure.
MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause 2: Sub-section (3A) of section 5 sought to be inserted by clause 2, empowers the State Government to make rules regarding punishment for contravention of provisions of sub-section (1) of section 5.

The proposed delegation of legislative power is normal in character.

K. SUDHAKAR
Minister for Health and Family Welfare
and Medical education

M.K. VISHALAKSHI
Secretary (I/c)
Karnataka Legislative Assembly
5. **Prohibition of Contravention or obstruction of Public Servant.**

No person, institution or company shall contravene or disobey any of the provisions of section 4, rules, regulation or order made under this Act.

(2) No person shall obstruct any officer or any public servant while acting or purporting to act or discharging any duty in pursuance to any provisions of this Act, rules, regulations or orders made thereunder.

(3) No person shall indulge in any act of violence against a public servant or cause any damage or loss to any public or private property during an epidemic.

(4) Whoever contravenes any of the provisions of sub-section (1), (2) or (3) shall on conviction be punished with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than three months, but which may extend to five years and with fine, which shall not be less than fifty thousand rupees, but which may extend to two lakh rupees.

(5) Whoever, while committing an act of violence against a public servant, causes grievous hurt as defined in section 320 of Indian Penal Code, 1860 (Central Act 45 of 1860) to such person, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than six months, but which may extend to seven years and with fine, which shall not be less than one lakh rupees, but which may extend to five lakh rupees.

10. **Composition of certain offences.** Where a person is prosecuted for committing an offence punishable under sub-section (3) of section 5, such offence may, with the permission of the Court, be compounded by the person against whom such act of violence is committed.