

MEDIA RELEASE PSA welcomes signing of *Public Service Commission Bill* into law

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) welcomes the signing into law of the *Public Service Commission (PSC) Bill* by President Cyril Ramaphosa as a significant step towards strengthening accountability, ethical governance, and professionalism in the South African Public Service.

The PSA has consistently advocated for a capable, developmental, and ethical Public Service that places the interests of citizens at the centre of service delivery. The enactment of the *PSC Bill* reinforces the oversight role of the Public Service Commission and enhances its ability to promote constitutional values and principles throughout the Public Service.

The PSA, representing more than 250 000 public-sector employees, notes with appreciation that the legislation strengthens the PSC's mandate to monitor and evaluate a broad range of public-service practices, investigate maladministration, and assess service-delivery failures. These expanded powers are critical in addressing governance shortcomings, improving accountability, and ensuring that public servants adhere to the highest standards of professional ethics. An empowered and independent PSC is essential in safeguarding merit-based appointments, combating corruption, promoting transparency, and protecting the integrity of the Public Service. The effective implementation of the *Bill* will contribute significantly to building public trust in government institutions and improving the quality of services provided to communities.

The PSA trusts that the strengthened role of the PSC will support efforts to identify systemic challenges in departments and state institutions, whilst promoting corrective measures that will enhance efficiency and responsiveness in the Public Service. Whilst welcoming the new legislation, the PSA emphasises that the success of the *PSC Bill* will ultimately depend on the provision of adequate resources, institutional independence, and political will to implement the PSC's recommendations effectively. Oversight and accountability mechanisms must be supported to ensure that findings and recommendations lead to meaningful improvements in the Public Service.

The PSA is committed to cooperating with all stakeholders in promoting a professional, ethical, and people-centred Public Service that advances the constitutional vision of a capable state and delivers quality services to South Africans.

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