

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE — 8TH MAY, 1978  
LEGAL SUPPLEMENT — C

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,  
Public Buildings,  
Georgetown,  
Guyana.

25th April, 1978.

The following Bill which will be introduced in the National Assembly is published for general information.

*F. A. Narain,*  
Clerk of the National Assembly.



**GUYANA**

BILL NO. 10 of 1978

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

**SECTION**

1. Short title.
2. Insertion of section 4A in the Principal Act.
3. Insertion of section 5A in the Principal Act.
4. Amendment of section 11 of the Principal Act.
5. Amendment of the Schedule to the Principal Act.
6. Insertion of the Second Schedule in the Principal Act.

A BILL

Intituled

AN ACT to amend the Weights and Measures Act

A.D. 1978 Enacted by the Parliament of Guyana:—

Short title 1. This Act, which amends the Weights and Measures Act, may be cited as the Weights and Measures (Amendment) Act 1978.

Insertion of section 4A in the Principal Act. Second Schedule 2. The Principal Act is hereby amended by inserting the following section immediately after section 4 —

4A. (1) The table in the Second Schedule shall be deemed to set forth for use in any trade or business the equivalents of imperial weights and measures and of the weights and measures therein expressed in terms of the metric system, and such table may be lawfully used for computing and expressing, in weights and measures, weights and measures of the metric system.

(2) Where in any law a rate of duty, tax or price is imposed or fixed with reference to imperial weights and measures or to weights and measures of the metric system, such reference may be construed and have effect as a reference to the equivalent weights and measures of the metric system or of the imperial system as the case may be.

(3) The Minister may by order amend the table in the Second Schedule.”

Insertion of section 5A in the Principal Act. 3. The Principal Act is hereby amended by inserting the following section immediately after section 5 —

5A. Notwithstanding anything contained in any written law metric weights or measures may be lawfully used in any trade or business and a contract or dealing is not invalid or open to objection on the ground that the weights or measures expressed or referred to therein are weights or measures of the

metric system, or on the ground that decimal subdivisions of weights and measures, whether metric or otherwise, are used in such contract or dealing.”.

4. Section 11(3) of the Principal Act is hereby amended by inserting the word “First” immediately before the word “Schedule” wherever it occurs.

Amendment of section 11 of the Principal Act.

5. The Schedule to the Principal Act is hereby amended by inserting the word “First” immediately before the word “Schedule”.

Amendment of the Schedule to the Principal Act.

6. The Principal Act is hereby amended by inserting the following provisions therein as the Second Schedule —

Insertion of the Second Schedule in the Principal Act.

“S.4A

## SECOND SCHEDULE

### TABLE

#### Equivalents of Imperial and Metric Weights and Measures in Trade or Business

##### IMPERIAL TO METRIC

##### Linear Measure

1 Inch (in.)	= 25.4 millimetres (mm) or 2.54 centimetres (cm)
1 Foot (ft.)	= 0.304 8 metre (m) or 30.4 centimetres (cm)
1 Yard (yd.)	= 0.914 399 metre (m)
1 Fathom (fa.)	= 1.828 8 metres (m)
1 Pole (po.) (5.5 yds.)	= 5.029 2 metres (m)
1 Chain (ch.)	= 20.116 8 metres (m)
1 Furlong (fur.)	= 201.168 metres (m)
1 Mile (mi)	= 1.609 344 kilometres (km)

##### Cubic Measure

1 Cubic inch (in. <sup>3</sup> )	= 16.387 1 cubic centimetres (cm <sup>3</sup> )
1 Cubic foot (ft. <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.028 316 8 cubic metre (m <sup>3</sup> )
1 Cubic yard (yd. <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.764 555 cubic metre (m <sup>3</sup> )

**Measures of Capacity**

1 Gill (gi.)	=	1.42 decilitres (dl.)
1 Pint (pt.) (4 gi.)	=	0.568 261 25 litre (l)
1 Quart (qt.) (2 pt.)	=	1.136 522 litres (l)
1 Gallon (gal.) (4 qt. or 8 pt.)	=	4.545 963 1 litres (l)
1 Bushel (bu.)	=	3.636 9 dekalitres (dal.) or 36.369 litres (l)
1 Fluid ounce (fl. oz.) [U.K.]	=	28.413 062 5 millilitres (ml)

**Square Measure**

1 Square inch (in. <sup>2</sup> )	=	645.16 square millimetres (mm <sup>2</sup> ) or 6.451 6
1 Square yard (yd. <sup>2</sup> )	=	square centimetres (cm <sup>2</sup> )
1 Rood (rd.)	=	0.092 903 square metre (m <sup>2</sup> )
1 Acre (ac.)	=	0.836 127 square metre (m <sup>2</sup> ) 10.117 ares (a)
1 Square mile (mi. <sup>2</sup> )	=	4046.856 422 4 square metres (m <sup>2</sup> ) or 0.404 685 6 hectare (ha.)
1 Square foot (ft. <sup>2</sup> )	=	2.589 998 110 336 square kilometres (km <sup>2</sup> ) or 258.998 811 hectares (ha)

**Apothecaries Measure**

1 Minim	=	0.059 19 millilitre (ml)
1 Fluid Scruple (fl. sc.)	=	1.184 millilitres (ml)
1 Fluid drachm (fl. dr.)	=	3.552 millilitres (ml)
1 Fluid ounce (fl. oz.)	=	0.568 261 25 litre (l)
1 Pint (pt.) (20 fl. oz.)	=	28.413 062 millilitres (ml)
1 Gallon (gal.)	=	4.545 963 1 litres (l)

**Avoirdupois Weight**

1 Grain (gr.)	=	0.064 8 gram (g)
1 Dram (dr.)	=	1.772 grams (g)
1 Ounce (oz.) (16 dr.)	=	28.349 523 125 grams (g)
1 Pound (lb.) (16 oz.)	=	0.453 529 37 kilogram (kg)
1 Stone (st.) (14 lb.)	=	6.350 kilograms (kg)
1 Quarter (qr.) (28 lb.)	=	12.70 kilograms (kg)
1 Hundredweight (cwt.) (112 lb.)	=	50.80 kilograms (kg)
1 Ton (t) (long ton) (20 cwt.)	=	1016.046 908 kilograms (kg) 1.016 046 908 tonnes (t)

**Troy Weight**

1 Grain (gr.)		0.064 8 gram (g)
1 Pennyweight (dwt.) (24 gr.)	=	1.555 2 grams (g)
1 Troy ounce (oz. tr.) (20 dwt.)		31.103 5 grams (g)

**Apothecaries Weight**

1 Grain (gr.)	=	0.064 gram (g)
1 Scruple (sc.) (20 gr.)	=	1.296 grams (g)
1 Drachm (dr.) (3 sc.)	=	3.888 grams (g)
1 Ounce (oz.) (8 dr.)	=	31.103 5 grams (g)

**MULTIPLES OF SI UNITS**

Factor	Prefix	Symbol
10 <sup>12</sup>	tera	T
10 <sup>9</sup>	giga	G
10 <sup>6</sup>	mega	M
10 <sup>3</sup>	kilo	K
10 <sup>2</sup>	hecto	h
10	deka	da

**SUBMULTIPLES OR FRACTIONS OF SI UNITS**

Factor	Prefix	Symbol
10 <sup>-1</sup>	deci	d
10 <sup>-2</sup>	centi	c
10 <sup>-3</sup>	milli	m
10 <sup>-6</sup>	micro	u
10 <sup>-9</sup>	nano	n
10 <sup>-12</sup>	pico	
10 <sup>-15</sup>	femto	f
10 <sup>-18</sup>	atto	a

**Note:** SI prefixes are not applicable to the base unit — “Kilogram” but applicable to the one-thousandth part thereof, namely the “gram”.

**METRIC TO IMPERIAL****Linear Measure**

1 Millimetre (mm)	=	0.039 370 079 inch (in.)
1 Centimetre (cm)	=	0.393 700 79 inch (in.)
1 Decimetre (dm)	=	3.937 007 9 inches (in.)
1 Metre (m)	=	1.093 613 yards (yd.)

1 Dekametre (dam)	=	10.936 13 yards (yd.)
1 Hectometre (hm)	=	109.361 3 yards (yd.)
1 Kilometre (km)	=	0.621 371 19 mile (mi.)

**Cubic Measure**

1 Cubic centimetre (cm <sup>3</sup> )	=	0.061 023 744 cubic inch (in. <sup>3</sup> )
1 Cubic decimetre (dm <sup>3</sup> )	=	0.035 314 677 cubic foot (ft. <sup>3</sup> ) or 61.024 cubic inches (in. <sup>3</sup> )
1 Cubic metre (m <sup>3</sup> )	=	1.307 950 6 cubic yards (yd. <sup>3</sup> )

**Measures of Capacity**

1 Millilitre (ml)	=	0.007 gill (gi.)
1 Centilitre (cl)	=	0.070 gill (gi.)
1 Decilitre (dl)	=	0.176 pint (pt.)
1 Litre (l)	=	1.759 80 pints (pt.)
1 Dekalitre (dal)	=	2.200 gallons (gal.)
1 Hectolitre (hl)	=	2.749 7 bushels (bu.)

**Square Measure**

1 Squaré millimetre (mm <sup>2</sup> )	=	0.001 550 square inch (in. <sup>2</sup> )
1 Square centimetre (cm <sup>2</sup> )	=	0.155 000 square inch (in. <sup>2</sup> )
1 Square metre (m <sup>2</sup> )	=	1.195 990 square yards (yd. <sup>2</sup> )
1 Are (a) (=100m <sup>2</sup> )	=	119.959 90 square yards (yd. <sup>2</sup> )
1 Hectare (ha) (=1000m <sup>2</sup> )	=	2.471 053 8 acres (ac)
1 Square kilometre (km <sup>2</sup> )	=	0.386 102 square mile (mi. <sup>2</sup> ) or 247.105 38 acres (ac)

**WEIGHT****Metric Weights**

1 Milligram (mg)	=	0.015 432 358 grain (gr)
1 Centigram (cg)	=	0.154 323 58 grain (gr)
1 Decigram (dg)	=	1.543 235 8 grains (gr)
1 Gram (g)	=	15.432.358 grains (gr) or 0.035 273 962 ounce (oz.)
1 Dekagram (dag)	=	5.644 drams (dr.) or 0.352 739 62 ounce (oz.)
1 Hectogram (hg)	=	3.527 396 2 ounces (oz.)
1 Kilogram (kg)	=	2.204 622 3 pounds (lb.)
1 Tonne (t) also referred to ) as a metric ton (1,000 kg )	=	0.984 2 ton (t)

**Troy**

1 Gram (g)	=	0.032 15 ounce (oz.) or 0.643 pennyweight (dwt.) or 15.432 358 grains (gr.)
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1 Metric carat  
(or 0.2g) = 3.086 47 grains (gr.)

**Apothecaries**

1 Gram (g) = 0.032 15 ounce (troy) or 0.257 2 drachm (dr.) or  
0.771 6 scruple (sc.) or 15.432 358 grains (gr.)”

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

This Bill seeks to provide for metric weights and measures to be lawfully used in any trade or business and sets forth the equivalents of imperial weights and measures in terms of the metric system. The legislation is a temporary measure pending the enactment of a Weights and Measures Act in implementation of the metric system in Guyana.

*F. E. Hope,*  
Minister of Finance

(Bill No. 10/1978)

(ST: 34/2/4)