

**ACT NO. 18 OF 2025**

I assent.

R. N. T. LALABALAVU  
President

[21 July 2025]

**AN ACT****TO AMEND THE MARITIME TRANSPORT ACT 2013**

ENACTED by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji—

*Short title and commencement*

**1.**—(1) This Act may be cited as the Maritime Transport (Budget Amendment) Act 2025.

(2) This Act comes into force on a date or dates appointed by the Minister by notice in the Gazette.

(3) In this Act, the Maritime Transport Act 2013 is referred to as the “Principal Act”.

*Section 2 amended*

**2.** Section 2 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting the following new definitions—

““Automatic Identification System” or “AIS” means an automatic tracking system used on ships for identifying and locating ships by electronically exchanging data with other nearby ships, land based AIS stations, and satellites as a primary means for collision avoidance and to assist in situational awareness;” and

““SOLAS” means the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, Protocol 1978, Protocol 1988, all mandatory Codes and future amendments to the Conventions, Protocols and Codes;”.

*Section 116C inserted*

3. The Principal Act is amended after section 116B by inserting the following new section—

*“Automatic Identification System*

116C.—(1) Every ship of a prescribed class or size navigating Fiji waters must be fitted with an AIS device that is activated pursuant to the requirements of SOLAS.

(2) The owner or master of a ship must ensure the AIS device is operational and transmitting correct information at all times when underway.”.

*Section 240 amended*

4. Section 240(1) of the Principal Act is amended by—

(a) in paragraph (hh), after “High Seas” deleting “and”;

(b) in paragraph (ii), deleting “.” and substituting “; and”; and

(c) after paragraph (ii), inserting the following new paragraph—

“(jj) prescribing the standards and requirements for the operational use of the Automatic Identification Systems on ships.”.

Passed by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji this 18th day of July 2025.