

## LEPPARD LEGISLATION WATCH

**APRIL 2017**

After complaining in last month's newsletter about the amount of legislation that is gazetted each month, and the difficulty in trying to stay up-to-date, this month's newsletter is relatively short. It would appear that most of last month's legislative activity was aimed at doing some general housekeeping on those Acts which have some effect on our industry, and no major developments require our attention.

### **What to watch – selected recent developments**

#### **Financial Zone**

- ❖ Draft Rates and Monetary Amounts and Amendment of Revenue Laws Bill 2017 – This draft Bill proposes amendments to the Customs and Excise Act (the proposed so-called 'Sugar Tax'), the Income Tax Act (various amounts as announced in the 2017 Budget Speech), the Transfer Duty Act (confirms the amended thresholds for the payment of transfer duty as announced in the Budget Speech and scheduled to take effect from 1 March 2017), and the Value-added Tax Act.
- ❖ Income Tax Act – New daily amounts in respect of incidental costs only in the RSA (R122 per day) and meals and incidental costs in the RSA (R397 per day) apply from 1 March 2017. A lengthy table sets out the amounts that apply for meals and incidental costs incurred outside the RSA and can be accessed at [www.sars.gov.za/Legal/Secondary-Legislation/Pages/Income-Tax-Notices.aspx](http://www.sars.gov.za/Legal/Secondary-Legislation/Pages/Income-Tax-Notices.aspx) (Notice 194).
- ❖ Income tax Act – New rates per kilometre for those taxpayers who receive a travelling allowance but travel less than 12 000 kilometres a year have been published, effective 1 March 2017, at R3.55 per km. A table has been published for those requiring the rates dependant on the value of their vehicles and where the distance travelled exceeds 12 000 kms, and can be accessed at [www.sars.gov.za/Legal/Secondary-Legislation/Pages/Income-Tax-Notices.aspx](http://www.sars.gov.za/Legal/Secondary-Legislation/Pages/Income-Tax-Notices.aspx) (Notice 195).
- ❖ Long-term Insurance Act – The penalty for failure to furnish the Registrar timeously with prescribed returns, information and documents will be R5 900 per day for non-compliance, from 28 February 2017, and will be in addition

- to any other sanctions that may apply.
- ❖ Short-term Insurance Act - The penalty for failure to furnish the Registrar timeously with prescribed returns, information and documents will be R5 900 per day for non-compliance, from 28 February 2017, and will be in addition to any other sanctions that may apply.

#### **General**

- ❖ Cybercrimes and Cybersecurity Bill – The Bill has now been published and contains some stylistic improvements over the draft Bill. None of the changes appear to have any impact on business in general. (This Bill was referred to in the March 2017 newsletter)

***Leppard Legislation Watch** is a monthly newsletter providing selected updates on legislation which could have an impact on the business of Leppard Underwriting and its clients. **Leppard Legislation Watch** is not intended as legal or professional advice and is published for general information purposes only. This newsletter is not a substitute for legal or other professional advice.*

