

In this infographic, we look at the pipeline laws in the Parliament's 2021-2022 legislative session as well as the status and main stipulations of each.

## GOVERNMENT REVENUES/ EXPENDITURES



### VAT AMENDMENTS

Received Cabinet approval in Oct'20; might undergo changes due to private sector lobbying

- Changing the list of goods and services on which VAT is remitted
- 14% VAT to be applied on the sale of non-residential property and most commercial advertising
- Neither office nor commercial rents will be subject to 14% VAT, but could be subject to a 1% schedule tax
- Hiking the 5% rate on many forms of snack foods
- Removing VAT paid on freight costs for strategic goods

### CAPITAL GAINS TAX

Will be coming into effect on 1 Jan'22

- To be applied on EGX transactions
- Egypt-domiciled investors will face an annual 10% capital gains tax on their net portfolio earnings from 1 Jan'22

### UNIFIED BUDGET ACT

Preliminary approved by the Senate in Jul'21; high priority

- Merging legislation governing the state's annual budget and government accountability into an updated bill
- Erasing overlap between different pieces of legislation
- Requiring GoE to present a medium-term budgetary and fiscal strategy to the Parliament every year



## BUSINESS/ FINANCE

### LABOUR ACT

Draft was voted on by the Parliament in Feb'20; could undergo changes

- Putting new rules on how employees can be laid off
- Making it harder for employers to fire staff for illnesses
- Allowing workers dismissal if convicted of a felony
- Encouraging youth employment
- Creating special courts for labour-related cases

### FRA ACT

Approved by the Cabinet in Feb'19; delayed due to companies concern over FRA power

- Granting the FRA operational autonomy
- Giving the FRA status as a separate legal entity
- Requiring the FRA to submit an annual report on its activities and the performance of the NBFS to the President, Prime Minister & Parliament
- The authority's head to be appointed by the President (cabinet rank).

### FINTECH LAW

Approved by the Parliament in Oct'21

- Establishing a framework to regulate the FinTech space
- Allowing the FRA to license and regulate FinTech platforms
- Allowing the Fra to introduce new penalties for regulatory breaches

### UNIFIED INS. ACT

With the Parliament after Cabinet approval in Nov'20

- Granting the FRA broad new powers to regulate the sector
- Making insurance compulsory for SMEs and freelancers
- Setting up new economic courts to mediate disputes

## DEVELOPMENT/ INFRASTRUCTURE



### PPP ACT

Awaiting final vote by the Parliament before being sent to the President

- Streamlining public-private partnership (PPP) contracts in fields including transport, energy, communications, and healthcare
- Ensuring higher quality standards
- Cutting the time to issue tenders
- Enabling private-sector players to submit unsolicited proposals

### UNIFIED BUILDING CODE

With the Parliament's Local Administration and Housing committees

- Imposing harsher penalties on violators and state officials found guilty of not acting to penalize building code violations
- Streamlining procedures and cutting red tape to obtain permits
- Making permits valid for three years instead of one
- Requiring developers putting up buildings taller than five storeys or valued at over EGP 3 mn to buy insurance against construction damage

### UNIFIED PLANNING ACT

With the Parliament's Planning and Budget Committee

- Dictating how governorate-level economic, social, and urban development plans are implemented
- Setting up a planning committee headed by the president



## SOCIAL/ POLITICAL

### PERSONAL STATUS ACT AMENDMENTS

Proposed early 2020; shelved after backlash

- The bill has faced opposition for attempting to take away women's rights and legal protections
- Preventing women from travelling abroad without a male guardian's consent and disallowing mothers from registering a child's birth certificate

### VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

Proposal approved by the Cabinet in Sep'20; no further updates

- Setting up a new public authority responsible for accrediting institutions offering technical learning and training program
- Government schools and private institutions will have five years to meet the authority's quality standards and obtain accreditation

### DISABILITIES ACT AMENDMENTS

Approved by the Senate in May'21

- Toughening penalties for those convicted of bullying disabled persons
- Increasing the minimum sentence to two years, and to three years if the perpetrator is the guardian

### SENIOR CARE ACT

Status unknown

- Outlawing age discrimination against people aged 65 and above
- Legislating rights and benefits for senior citizens