



# THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

## ARMS OFFENCES ACT 1973

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# Arms Offences Act 1973

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An Act relating to the unlawful possession of arms and ammunition and the carrying and using of arms.

[8 February 1974]

### **Short title**

1. This Act is the Arms Offences Act 1973.

### **Interpretation**

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —

“arm” means any firearm, airgun, air pistol, automatic gun, automatic pistol and any other kind of gun or pistol from which any shot, bullet or other missile can be discharged or noxious liquid, flame or fumes can be emitted, and any component part thereof and includes any bomb or grenade and any component part thereof;

“imitation arm” means anything which has the appearance of being an arm;

“import” means to bring or cause to be brought into Singapore by any means from any place;

“scheduled offence” means any offence specified in the Schedule;

“trafficking in arms” means —

(a) to import, manufacture or deal in arms in contravention of the provisions of the Arms and Explosives Act 1913; or

(b) to lend, give, sell, hire or offer for sale or hire any arm to a person who has no licence to possess the arm issued under the Arms and Explosives Act 1913;

“unlawful possession” means possession or control contrary to the provisions of the Arms and Explosives Act 1913;

“use”, means —

(a) in relation to a firearm, an airgun, air pistol, automatic gun, automatic pistol and any other kind of gun or pistol from which any shot, bullet or other missile can be discharged or noxious liquid, flame or fumes can be emitted — to cause the shot, bullet or other missile to be discharged or the noxious liquid, flame or fumes to be emitted with intent to cause physical injury to any person; and

(b) in relation to a bomb or grenade — to throw the bomb or grenade, or to cause it to explode, with intent to cause physical injury to any person or property.

**Penalty for being in unlawful possession of arms or ammunition**

3.—(1) Subject to subsection (4), any person who is in unlawful possession of any arm or ammunition shall be guilty of an offence and shall on conviction be punished with imprisonment for a term of not less than 5 years and not more than 10 years and shall also be punished with caning with not less than 6 strokes.

(2) Subject to subsection (4), any person who unlawfully carries any arm shall be guilty of an offence and shall on conviction be punished with imprisonment for a term of not less than 5 years and not more than 14 years and shall also be punished with caning with not less than 6 strokes.

(3) Where any person at the time of committing or being apprehended for any scheduled offence has on his or her person any arm, the person shall be guilty of an offence and shall on conviction be punished with imprisonment for life and shall also be punished with caning with not less than 6 strokes.

(4) Where any person convicted of an offence punishable under subsection (1) or (2) is proved to have been previously convicted of a scheduled offence, the person shall on conviction be punished with imprisonment for a term of not less than 5 years and not more than 20 years and shall also be punished with caning with not less than 6 strokes.

**Using or attempting to use arms**

4.—(1) Subject to any exception mentioned in Chapter 4 of the Penal Code 1871 which may be applicable (other than section 95), any person who uses or attempts to use any arm shall be guilty of an offence and shall on conviction be punished with death.

(2) In any proceedings for an offence under this section, any person who uses or attempts to use any arm shall, until the contrary is proved, be presumed to have used or attempted to use the arm with the intention to cause physical injury to any person or property.