# Legal Profession (Amendment) Act 2005 (No. 41 of 2005)

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# REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE ACTS SUPPLEMENT

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The following Act was passed by Parliament on 21st November 2005 and assented to by the President on 7th December 2005:—

# **LEGAL PROFESSION (AMENDMENT) ACT 2005**

(No. 41 of 2005)

I assent.

S R NATHAN,

President,
7th December 2005.

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# Date of Commencement: 4th December 2006

An Act to amend the Legal Profession Act (Chapter 161 of the 2001 Revised Edition).

Be it enacted by the President with the advice and consent of the Parliament of Singapore, as follows:

## **Short title and commencement**

1. This Act may be cited as the Legal Profession (Amendment) Act 2005 and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

#### Amendment of section 2

- 2. Section 2 of the Legal Profession Act (referred to in this Act as the principal Act) is amended—
  - (a) by inserting, immediately after the definition of "Academy" in subsection (1), the following definition:
    - ""active practice" does not include practice as a locum solicitor;";
  - (b) by deleting the words "or a law corporation's" in paragraph (a) of the definition of "client" in subsection (1) and substituting the words ", a law corporation's or a limited liability law partnership's";
  - (c) by deleting paragraph (b) of the definition of "client" in subsection (1) and substituting the following paragraph:
    - "(b) in relation to non-contentious business
      - (i) any person who, as a principal or on behalf of another, or as a trustee, an executor or an administrator, or in any other capacity, has power, express or implied, to retain or employ, and retains or employs or is about to retain or employ, a solicitor, a law corporation or a limited liability law partnership; and
      - (ii) any person for the time being liable to pay a solicitor, a law corporation or a limited liability law partnership for his or its services any costs;";
  - (d) by inserting, immediately after the definition of "legal officer" in subsection (1), the following definition:
    - ""limited liability law partnership" means a limited liability partnership approved as a limited liability law partnership under section 81Q;";
  - (e) by inserting, immediately after the words "law corporations" in the

- definition of "locum solicitor" in subsection (1), the words ", limited liability law partnerships";
- (f) by deleting subsection (4) and substituting the following subsection:
  - "(4) References to an employee of a solicitor or law firm or law corporation or limited liability law partnership shall be construed to include a locum solicitor engaged by the solicitor or law firm or law corporation or limited liability law partnership, as the case may be, and references to being employed by a solicitor or law firm or law corporation or limited liability law partnership shall be construed accordingly, in the following provisions:
    - (a) sections 78, 81D, 81E, 81F, 81H, 81S, 81T and 81U;
    - (b) the definition of "specified person" in section 79(2);
    - (c) paragraphs 1 (1)(a)(ii), 5 (1)(d) and 8A (1)(d) of the First Schedule; and
    - (d) the Second Schedule."; and
- (g) by inserting, immediately after subsection (5), the following subsection:
  - "(6) Unless it is expressly provided to the contrary
    - (a) references to a partnership in this Act; or
    - (b) references to a law firm or firm in this Act, except in Part IXA,

shall not include a reference to a limited liability partnership.".

#### Amendment of section 25

**3.** Section 25 (1) of the principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after the words "law corporation" in paragraph (a) (ii), the words "or limited liability law partnership".

## Amendment of section 26

- 4. Section 26 of the principal Act is amended
  - (a) by inserting, immediately after paragraph (b) of subsection (1), the following paragraph:
    - "(ba) unless he is or is about to be a partner or an employee of a limited liability law partnership;"; and

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