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Notification No. B 32 — The Supreme Court of Judicature (Amendment) Bill is published for general information. It was introduced in Parliament on 7 October 2019.

Supreme Court of Judicature (Amendment) Bill

Bill No. 32/2019.

Read the first time on 7 October 2019.

A BILL

i n t i t u l e d

An Act to amend the Supreme Court of Judicature Act (Chapter 322 of the 2007 Revised Edition) to provide for the renaming of the High Court as the General Division of the High Court, to provide for the jurisdiction and powers of the Appellate Division of the High Court, to make amendments to provisions relating to the Court of Appeal, to make amendments relating to requirements for leave to appeal against decisions of the General Division of the High Court and to make consequential and related amendments to certain other Acts.

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 is the Supreme Court of Judicature (Amendment) Act 2019 and comes into operation on a date that the Minister appoints by notification in the *Gazette*.

5 **Amendment of long title**

2. The long title to the Supreme Court of Judicature Act (called in this Act the principal Act) is amended by deleting the words “relating to the constitution” and substituting the words “to provide for the jurisdiction”.

10 **Amendment of section 2**

3. Section 2 of the principal Act is amended —

(a) by deleting the words “unless there is something repugnant in the subject matter or context” and substituting the words “unless the context otherwise requires”;

15 (b) by deleting the definition of “court” and substituting the following definitions:

““Appellate Division” means the Appellate Division of the High Court;

20 “court” means the General Division, the Appellate Division, or the Court of Appeal;”;

(c) by deleting the definitions of “Judge” and “Judge of Appeal” and substituting the following definitions:

““General Division” means the General Division of the High Court;

25 “Judge” means a Supreme Court Judge, a Judicial Commissioner, a Senior Judge or an International Judge, and —

30 (a) in relation to the General Division, means a Judge sitting in that Division in accordance with the Constitution and this Act;

- (b) in relation to the Appellate Division,
means a Judge sitting in that Division
in accordance with the Constitution
and this Act; and
- (c) in relation to the Court of Appeal, 5
means a Judge sitting in that Court in
accordance with the Constitution and
this Act;”; and
- (d) by deleting the full-stop at the end of the definition of
“subordinate court” and substituting a semi-colon, and by 10
inserting immediately thereafter the following definition:
 - ““Supreme Court Judge” means the Chief Justice,
a Justice of the Court of Appeal, a Judge of the
Appellate Division or a Judge of the High
Court.”. 15

Repeal and re-enactment of sections 3 and 4

4. Sections 3 and 4 of the principal Act are repealed and the following sections substituted therefor:

“Superior courts

3. It is declared that the General Division of the High Court, 20
the Appellate Division of the High Court and the Court of
Appeal are superior courts of record.

Precedence

4. The Supreme Court Judges rank in the following order:

- (a) the Chief Justice; 25
- (b) the Vice-Presidents of the Court of Appeal according
to the order of their appointments;
- (c) the Justices of the Court of Appeal (other than the
Vice-Presidents of the Court of Appeal) according to
the order of their appointments; 30
- (d) the President of the Appellate Division (if the Chief
Justice is not the President of the Appellate Division);