

Civil Defence (Amendment) Bill

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Bill No: 27/2010

Read the first time: 18th October 2010

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Civil Defence (Amendment) Bill

Bill No. 27/2010

Read the first time on 18th October 2010.

An Act to amend the Civil Defence Act (Chapter 42 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 Civil Defence (Amendment) Act 2010 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 Civil Defence Act (referred to in this Act as the principal Act) is amended —

- (a) by inserting, immediately after the word “storm” in the definition of “civil defence emergency”, the words “, hazardous materials incident”;
- (b) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “disciplinary officer”, the following definition:
 - “ “emergency services” means any organisation or group of persons providing services to respond to and deal with civil defence emergencies, and includes fire-fighting services, ambulance services and the police;”;
- (c) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “Fund”, the following definitions:
 - “ “hazardous material” means any substance or article set out in the Third Schedule to the Road Traffic (Expressway Traffic) Rules (Cap. 276, R 23);
 - “hazardous materials incident” means an actual or suspected spillage or other escape of any hazardous material the spillage or escape of which causes or may cause destruction of or damage to property or loss of life or injury or distress to persons or that in any way endangers the safety of the public in Singapore or in any part thereof;
 - “junior disciplinary officer”, in relation to a person charged with an offence, means an officer commanding a company or equivalent sub-unit or any other officer designated as a junior disciplinary officer by the Commissioner to deal with charges made against a member for the commission of a service offence;”;
- (d) by inserting, immediately after the word “Force” in the definition of “member”, the words “, and shall include an auxiliary member”;
- (e) by inserting, immediately before the words “warrant officer” in the

definitions of “non-commissioned officer” and “serviceman”, the word “senior”;

- (f) by deleting the definition of “provost officer” and substituting the following definition:

“ “provost officer” means any member of the Force appointed by the Commissioner as a provost officer for the purposes of this Act;”;

- (g) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “regulations”, the following definition:

“ “senior disciplinary officer”, in relation to a person charged with an offence, means an officer commanding a division, battalion, training school or its equivalent or any other officer designated as a senior disciplinary officer by the Commissioner to deal with charges made against a member for the commission of a service offence;”;

- (h) by inserting, immediately before the words ““service ship”” in the definition of “service property”, the words ““service equipment”, “service facilities”,”.

Amendment of section 4

3. Section 4 of the principal Act is amended —

- (a) by inserting, immediately after the words “defence and” in subsection (1)(b), the words “, if necessary,”; and
- (b) by deleting paragraphs (a) to (p) of subsection (2) and substituting the following paragraphs:

- “(a) rescue endangered persons and remove them to areas of safety;
- (b) provide first-aid to casualties and for their removal for medical treatment or to areas of safety;
- (c) train and, if necessary, equip the civilian population to cope with any civil defence emergency;
- (d) assist the public authorities to undertake measures for the retrieval and, if necessary, decontamination of the dead bodies from any place affected by any civil defence emergency;
- (e) disseminate information and advice to the public;

- (f) take lawful measures to extinguish and prevent the spread of fire;
- (g) provide, maintain, control and operate prescribed warning devices;
- (h) manage all public shelters including air-raid shelters and temporary shelters;
- (i) take lawful measures for protecting life and property in case of fire;
- (j) take lawful measures to mitigate the consequences of hazardous materials incidents and for protecting life and property in such an event;
- (k) provide and maintain an adequate emergency ambulance service;
- (l) ensure effective co-ordination between the Force and other emergency services in Singapore; and
- (m) execute such other duties as may be imposed on it by this Act or any other written law.”.

Amendment of section 5

4. Section 5(3) of the principal Act is amended by deleting the words “as engineering or technical officers” in paragraph (d).

Amendment of section 6

5. Section 6 of the principal Act is amended —

- (a) by inserting, immediately after the words “Deputy Commissioners” in subsection (2), the words “, Senior Assistant Commissioners”; and
- (b) by inserting, immediately after the words “The Deputy Commissioners” in subsection (3), the words “, the Senior Assistant Commissioners”.

Repeal and re-enactment of section 12

6. Section 12 of the principal Act is repealed and the following section substituted therefor:

“Identity card

12. An identity card shall be issued to every full-time national serviceman and shall be evidence of his enlistment in the Force under this Act.”.