

Public Transport Council (Amendment) Bill

Table of Contents

Bill No: 14/2008

Read the first time: 21st July 2008

Long Title

Enacting Formula

1 Short title and commencement

2 Amendment of section 4

3 Amendment of section 23

4 Amendment of section 24

5 New sections 24AA and 24AB

Explanatory Statement

Expenditure of Public Money

Public Transport Council (Amendment) Bill

Bill No. 14/2008

Read the first time on 21st July 2008.

An Act to amend the Public Transport Council Act (Chapter 259B of the 2000 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 Public Transport Council (Amendment) Act 2008 and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

Amendment of section 4

2. Section 4 of the Public Transport Council Act (referred to in this Act as the principal Act) is amended by deleting the word “and” at the end of paragraph (c), and by inserting immediately thereafter the following paragraph:

“(ca) to promote and facilitate the integration of bus and rapid transit system fares to ensure the provision of efficient public passenger transport services and facilities; and”.

Amendment of section 23

3. Section 23 of the principal Act is amended —

(a) by deleting subsection (1) and substituting the following subsection:

“(1) Subject to subsection (2), no person shall be entitled to demand and take any bus, taxi or rapid transit system fare that is not approved by the Council under section 24(3) or 24AA(2)(a).”;

(b) by inserting, immediately after the words “the Council” in subsection (2), the words “in circumstances not proscribed by the Council”;

(c) by deleting the words “in excess of such approved fare” in subsection (4) and substituting the words “in contravention of subsection (1)”; and

(d) by inserting, immediately after subsection (4), the following subsection:

“(5) Where the Council has suspended any approval for any bus fare, taxi fare or rapid transit system fare under section 24(5), the bus fare, taxi fare or rapid transit system fare shall, for the duration of the suspension, be deemed not to be an approved fare for the purposes of this section.”.

Amendment of section 24

4. Section 24 of the principal Act is amended —

- (a) by deleting the word “and” at the end of paragraph (a) of subsection (2), and by inserting immediately thereafter the following paragraph:

“(aa) the need to promote or facilitate the integration of bus and rapid transit system fares or services for the through carriage of passengers provided by licensed bus service operators and licensed rapid transit system operators and other measures designed to facilitate the making by passengers of any journey which involves the use of —

- (i) the services of more than one such operator;
- (ii) more than one bus service or train service (whether or not operated by the same person); or
- (iii) both bus and train services (whether or not operated by the same person); and”;

- (b) by inserting, immediately after the words “as the Council thinks fit” in subsection (3)(b), the words “, including but not limited to any condition described in section 24AA(2)(b)”;

- (c) by deleting subsection (4) and substituting the following subsections:

“(4) Subject to subsection (6), the Council may, by order and without compensation, revoke any approval granted under subsection (3)(b) if the Council is satisfied that —

- (a) the applicant has failed to comply with any condition imposed by the Council under subsection (3)(b) or section 24AA(2) on that approval;
- (b) the approval had been obtained by fraud or misrepresentation;
- (c) the applicant has been convicted of an offence under this Act;
- (d) it is in the public interest to do so; or
- (e) the applicant has refused or failed to comply with an order of the Council made under

subsection (5)(b).

(5) Subject to subsection (6), the Council may, in any case in which it considers that no cause of sufficient gravity exists for revoking any approval granted under subsection (3)(b) to an applicant for such approval, by order —

- (a) suspend the approval for a period not exceeding 6 months;
- (b) impose on the applicant concerned a financial penalty of an amount not exceeding \$100,000; or
- (c) publicly censure the applicant concerned.

(6) Before exercising any of its powers under subsection (4) or (5), the Council shall —

- (a) give to the applicant concerned notice in writing of its intention to do so; and
- (b) in such notice, call upon the applicant to show cause within such period as may be specified in the notice as to why the Council should not make any order under subsection (4) or (5), being a period of at least 7 days after the Council informs the applicant concerned of such intention.

(7) If the applicant —

- (a) fails to show cause within the period of time given or such extended period of time as the Council may allow; or
- (b) fails to show sufficient cause,

as to why the order under subsection (4) or (5), as the case may be, should not be made, the Council shall give notice in writing to the applicant concerned of the Council's order made under the respective subsection.

(8) In any proceedings under subsection (4) or (5) in relation to the conviction of an applicant for a criminal offence, the Council shall accept the applicant's conviction as final and conclusive.”.

New sections 24AA and 24AB

5. The principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after section 24 in Part V, the following sections: