Architects (Amendment) Bill

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Bill No: 18/2005

Read the first time: 18th July 2005

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Expenditure of Public Money

Architects (Amendment) Bill

Bill No. 18/2005

Read the first time on 18th July 2005.

An Act to amend the Architects Act (Chapter 12 of the 2000 Revised Edition).

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

Citation and commencement

1. This Act may be cited as the Architects (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 Architects Act is amended —

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- (a) by inserting, immediately after the definition of "builder", the following definition:
 - ""building authority" means any person empowered under the provisions of the Building Control Act to approve plans of building works;";
- (b) by deleting the definition of "Investigation Committee" and substituting the following definitions:
 - ""Disciplinary Committee" means a Disciplinary Committee appointed under section 31C;
 - "Investigation Committee" means an Investigation Committee appointed under section 30;
 - "Investigation Panel" means the Investigation Panel appointed under section 27;";
- (c) by deleting the words "corporation or partnership" wherever they appear in the definition of "licensed" and substituting in each case the words "corporation, partnership or limited liability partnership";
- (d) by deleting the definition of "manager" and substituting the following definitions:
 - ""limited liability partnership" has the same meaning given to it by section 4(1) of the Limited Liability Partnerships Act 2005 (Act 5 of 2005);
 - "manager"
 - (a) in relation to a corporation or partnership, means the principal executive officer of the corporation or partnership for the time being by whatever name called and whether or not he is a director or partner thereof; and
 - (b) in relation to a limited liability partnership, has the same meaning as in section 2(1) of the Limited Liability Partnerships Act 2005;";
- (e) by deleting the definition of "practising certificate" and substituting the following definition:
 - ""practising certificate"
 - (a) in relation to a registered architect, means an

- annual certificate issued under section 18 authorising him to engage in the practice of architecture in Singapore;
- (b) in relation to an allied professional who is a professional engineer registered under the Professional Engineers Act (Cap. 253), means a practising certificate issued under section 18 of that Act; and
- (c) in relation to an allied professional who is a land surveyor registered under the Land Surveyors Act (Cap. 156), means a practising certificate issued under section 15 of that Act;";
- (f) by deleting the words "appointed under section 4A(1)(a)" in the definition of "President"; and
- (g) by deleting the words "corporations and partnerships" in the definition of "register of licensees" and substituting the words "corporations, partnerships and limited liability partnerships".

Repeal and re-enactment of section 4A and new sections 4B to 4F

3. Section 4A of the Architects Act is repealed and the following sections substituted therefor:

"Constitution of Board

- **4A.**—(1) The Board shall consist of the following members:
 - (a) the Commissioner of Building Control;
 - (b) the President of the Singapore Institute of Architects;
 - (c) not more than 6 registered architects who have in force a practising certificate—
 - (i) to be elected by registered architects who have in force a practising certificate; or
 - (ii) failing such election, to be appointed by the Minister under subsection (2);

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(d) 6 registered architects to be appointed by the Minister; and

- (e) a registered professional engineer to be appointed by the Minister on the nomination of the Professional Engineers Board.
- (2) If elections held for the purposes of subsection (1)(c) result in less than 6 persons being elected as members of the Board thereunder, the Minister may appoint such number, as he thinks fit, of registered architects who have in force a practising certificate to be members of the Board, except that the number of members so appointed and the number of members elected under subsection (1)(c) shall not exceed 6 in the aggregate.
- (3) The members elected under subsection (1)(c) shall hold office for a term not exceeding 3 years and shall be eligible for re-election for not more than 2 consecutive terms.
- (4) Only registered architects of at least 10 years' standing may be elected under subsection (1)(c) or appointed under subsection (2) as members of the Board.
- (5) The members appointed under subsection (1)(d) or (e) or (2) shall hold office for a term not exceeding 3 years and shall be eligible for re-appointment.
- (6) The Minister may, at any time, revoke the appointment of any member appointed under subsection (1)(d) or (2) without assigning any reason.

Compulsory voting

- **4B.**—(1) Every registered architect who has in force a practising certificate on the day of the election of candidates as members of the Board under section 4A(1)(c) shall vote for the election of such members at such time and in such manner as may be prescribed.
- (2) Every registered architect who is required to vote for the election of the members of the Board in accordance with subsection (1) and who fails to do so shall not be entitled to apply for a practising certificate unless he
 - (a) satisfies the Registrar that he had a good and sufficient reason for not voting at the election; or
 - (b) pays to the Board a penalty prescribed by the Board.

President of Board

- **4C.**—(1) The Board shall have a President who shall be elected by the members of the Board from among its members
 - (a) who have been elected under section 4A(1)(c) or appointed under

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