

Prisons (Amendment) Bill

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Bill No: 31/2004

Read the first time: 20th July 2004

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Explanatory Statement

Expenditure of Public Money

Prisons (Amendment) Bill

Bill No. 31/2004

Read the first time on 20th July 2004.

An Act to amend the Prisons Act (Chapter 247 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 Prisons (Amendment) Act 2004 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 Prisons Act is amended —

(a) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “Corporation”, the following definition:

“ “Deputy Director” means the Deputy Director of Prisons appointed under section 20;”;

(b) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “juvenile”, the following definition:

“ “medical officer” means a medical officer appointed under section 25;”;

(c) by deleting the definition of “prison officer” and substituting the following definition:

“ “prison officer” means any prison officer appointed under section 20 and includes the Director, Deputy Director and any Superintendent;”;

(d) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “prisoner”, the following definition:

“ “registered medical practitioner” means a person registered under the Medical Registration Act (Cap. 174);”.

Amendment of section 17

3. Section 17(1) of the Prisons Act is amended by deleting the words “the Director, any Superintendent,” and substituting the word “any”.

Amendment of section 20

4. Section 20 of the Prisons Act is amended —

- (a) by inserting, immediately after the words “Director of Prisons,” in subsection (1), the words “a Deputy Director of Prisons”;
- (b) by inserting, immediately after the word “Director” in subsection (2), the words “, Deputy Director”;
- (c) by inserting, immediately after subsection (2), the following subsection:

“(3) The Deputy Director may, subject to such direction as may be given by the Director, exercise and perform all or any of the powers, duties and functions of the Director under this Act.”; and
- (d) by deleting the section heading and substituting the following section heading:

“Appointment of Director, Deputy Director, Superintendents and other officers”.

Repeal and re-enactment of section 25

5. Section 25 of the Prisons Act is repealed and the following section substituted therefor:

“Medical officers for prisons

25. The Director shall appoint one or more registered medical practitioners as may be necessary to be medical officers for the prisons.”.

Amendment of section 28

6. Section 28 of the Prisons Act is amended by deleting the words “Superintendent and every”.

Amendment of section 29

7. Section 29 of the Prisons Act is amended by deleting the words “Superintendent and every”.

Amendment of section 30

8. Section 30 of the Prisons Act is amended —

- (a) by deleting the words “The Director and all Superintendents, medical officers and prison officers” and substituting the words “All prison officers and medical officers”; and
- (b) by inserting, immediately after the words “Prison officers” in the section

heading, the words “and medical officers”.

Amendment of section 31

9. Section 31 of the Prisons Act is amended —

- (a) by deleting the words “Superintendent or” in subsections (1) to (5); and
- (b) by deleting the words “Superintendent and every” in subsection (3).

Amendment of section 32

10. Section 32 of the Prisons Act is amended —

- (a) by deleting the words “Superintendent and every”; and
- (b) by deleting the words “Superintendent and prison officer” in the section heading and substituting the words “Prison officer”.

Amendment of section 39

11. Section 39 of the Prisons Act is amended by deleting the word “Minister” in subsections (1) and (2) and in the section heading and substituting in each case the word “Director”.

Amendment of section 42

12. Section 42 of the Prisons Act is amended by deleting subsections (1) and (2) and substituting the following subsections:

“(1) If the Director is satisfied that a case of a contagious or infectious disease has occurred or is likely to occur in any prison, the Director may order the removal of any of the prisoners from the prison to another place although that place may not be a prison under this Act.

(2) In a case of emergency and where the Director is absent or unable to make the order for removal under subsection (1), the order may be made by the Superintendent of the prison concerned or any of the Visiting Justices of the prison.”.

Amendment of section 43

13. Section 43 of the Prisons Act is amended by deleting the word “Minister” wherever it appears in subsections (1) and (2) and substituting in each case the word “Director”.

Amendment of section 45