

Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill

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Bill No: 35/1999

Read the first time: 11th October 1999

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Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill

Bill No. 35/1999

Read the first time on 11th October 1999.

An Act to amend the Road Traffic Act (Chapter 276 of the 1997 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 Road Traffic (Amendment) Act 1999 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(1) of the Road Traffic Act (referred to in this Act as the principal Act) is amended by inserting, immediately after the definition of “police officer”, the following definition:

““public place” means any place or premises, whether privately owned or not, to which the general public or any section of the general public is permitted to have access, whether on payment or otherwise;”.

Amendment of section 5

3. Section 5 of the principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after subsection (5), the following subsection:

“(5A) Any person who is guilty of the offence under subsection (5) of altering a vehicle or trailer in contravention of this section shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$2,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months and, in the case of a second or subsequent conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months.”.

Amendment of section 10

4. Section 10 of the principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after subsection (2), the following subsection:

“(3) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$2,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months and, in the case of a second or subsequent

conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months.”.

Amendment of section 12

5. Section 12 of the principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after subsection (3), the following subsection:

“(4) Any person who fails to comply with subsection (2) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$2,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months and, in the case of a second or subsequent conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months.”.

Amendment of section 19

6. Section 19 of the principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after subsection (3), the following subsection:

“(3A) Without prejudice to subsection (3), the Registrar may refuse to issue a vehicle licence if he is satisfied that the vehicle in respect of which the licence is to be issued is registered in the name of a person who, pursuant to a warrant of court, has been arrested in connection with an offence under this Act or the rules or any written law specified in Part I of the Schedule and the offence has not been tried and determined by the court.”.

Amendment of section 25

7. Section 25 of the principal Act is amended by deleting subsections (2), (3) and (4) and substituting the following subsections:

“(2) The rules may —

- (a) provide for the issue of a permit, in respect of a vehicle not registered under this Act that is brought into Singapore from any place outside Singapore (referred to in this section as a foreign vehicle), authorising the keeping and use in Singapore of the vehicle for such period as the Registrar may determine;
- (b) prescribe the manner of application for such permit;
- (c) provide for the levy of a fee for the issue of such permit in accordance with such rates as may be prescribed by the Minister;
- (d) prescribe the conditions for the issue of such permit;
- (e) provide for the extension of the period of validity of such permit;

- (f) provide for the cancellation of such permit;
- (g) provide for such permit to be stored in an electronic form on such stored value card, device or appurtenance as may be issued by the Authority or its agent;
- (h) regulate the issue and use of such stored value card, device or appurtenance;
- (i) provide for the levy of a fee for the issue of such stored value card, device or appurtenance;
- (j) provide for the levy of a tax for the keeping or use of a foreign vehicle in Singapore in accordance with such rates as may be prescribed by the Minister;
- (k) prescribe the manner in which any fee or tax payable under the rules is to be levied and collected, including the use of electronic or computerised or other facilities, and the use by the foreign vehicle concerned of specified points of exit from Singapore, for that purpose;
- (l) prescribe the records to be kept by the Registrar in connection with the rules; and
- (m) empower the Registrar and any officer authorised by him to prohibit the entry into or exit from Singapore of any foreign vehicle if any fee or tax payable under the rules in respect of that vehicle is in arrears.

(3) Any rates prescribed by the rules may be made to apply only to vehicles of a specified class, category or description, and the Minister may prescribe different rates for vehicles of different classes, categories or descriptions or for vehicles used for different purposes.

(4) Where a person is convicted of an offence under any of the rules, the court before which such person is convicted may, in addition to the punishment prescribed for the offence, order him to pay the amount of such fees or taxes as may be certified by an officer appointed by the Authority to be due and payable by him at the date of his conviction, and such amount may be recovered according to the law for the time being in force for the recovery of fines.

(5) Section 77A of the Banking Act (Cap. 19) and section 14 of the Currency Act (Cap. 69) shall not apply to any stored value card, device or appurtenance issued by the Authority or its agent in accordance with the rules.”.

Amendment of section 27

8. Section 27 of the principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after subsection (2), the following subsection:

“(3) Any person who fails to comply with subsection (2)(b) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$2,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months and, in the case of a second or subsequent conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months.”.

New section 95A

9. The principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after section 95, the following section:

“Power to immobilise or seize and detain vehicle belonging to person against whom warrant of arrest is in force

95A.—(1) Where a vehicle which is being used or parked on a road or in a parking place is registered in the name of a person against whom a warrant of arrest is in force, a police officer or an employee of the Authority may —

- (a) immobilise the vehicle or cause the vehicle to be immobilised, if it is stationary; or
- (b) seize the vehicle and detain it at a place of safety or cause the vehicle to be seized and detained at a place of safety,

and the vehicle shall remain so immobilised or detained at the risk of the owner thereof until it is released by order of a Magistrate, the Deputy Commissioner of Police or the Registrar.

(2) The powers conferred by subsection (1) on a police officer may also be exercised by him in respect of any vehicle which is registered in the name of a person against whom a warrant of arrest is in force and which is being used or parked in a public place.

(3) Without prejudice to subsections (1) and (2) but subject to subsection (4), where a police officer, in attempting to execute a warrant of arrest at any private premises, finds at such private premises any vehicle which is registered in the name of the person against whom the warrant of arrest has been issued, the police officer may —

- (a) immobilise the vehicle or cause the vehicle to be immobilised, if it is stationary; or
- (b) seize the vehicle and detain it at a place of safety or cause the vehicle to be seized and detained at a place of safety,