

Charities Bill

Table of Contents

Bill No: 18/1994

Read the first time: 25th July 1994

Long Title

Enacting Formula

Part I PRELIMINARY

1 Short title and commencement

2 Interpretation

Part II COMMISSIONER OF CHARITIES

3 Appointment of Commissioner of Charities and other officers

4 Functions of Commissioner

Part III REGISTRATION OF CHARITIES AND PROVISIONS FOR INQUIRING INTO CHARITIES

5 Registration of charities

6 Effect of, and claims and objections to, registration

7 Power of Commissioner to require change of charity's name

8 General power of Commissioner to institute inquiries

9 Power of Commissioner to call for documents and search records

10 Supply of false or misleading information to Commissioner, etc.

11 Disclosure of information to and by Commissioner

Part IV CHARITY ACCOUNTS, REPORTS AND RETURNS

12 Duty to keep accounting records

13 Annual statements of accounts

14 Annual audit or examination of charity accounts

15 Supplementary provisions relating to audits, etc.

16 Annual reports

17 Public inspection of annual reports, etc.

18 Offences

Part V SMALL CHARITIES

19 Power to transfer all property, modify objects, etc.

20 Power to spend capital

**Part VI APPLICATION OF PROPERTY CY-PRÈS AND ASSISTANCE AND
SUPERVISION OF CHARITIES BY COURT AND COMMISSIONER**

21 Occasions for applying property cy-près

22 Application cy-près of gifts of donors unknown or disclaiming

**23 Entrusting charity property to Public Trustee and termination of
trust**

24 Concurrent jurisdiction with High Court for certain purposes

25 Power to act for protection of charities

26 Supplementary provisions relating to receiver and manager appointed for a charity

27 Persons disqualified for being trustees of a charity

28 Persons acting as charity trustee while disqualified

29 Publicity for proceedings under this Part

30 Power to authorise dealings with charity property, etc.

31 Taking of legal proceedings

32 Charitable companies

Part VII CONTROL OF FUND-RAISING FOR CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS

33 Interpretation of this Part

34 Prohibition on professional fund-raiser, etc., raising funds for charitable institution without an agreement in prescribed form

35 Professional fund-raisers, etc., required to indicate institutions benefitting and arrangements for remuneration

36 Cancellation of payments and agreements made in response to appeals

37 Right of charitable institution to prevent unauthorised fund-raising

38 False statements relating to institutions which are not registered charities

Part VIII FUND-RAISING APPEALS

39 Prohibition on conducting fund-raising appeal without permit

40 Exclusion of judicial review

Part IX MISCELLANEOUS

41 Manner of giving notice of charity meetings, etc.

42 Miscellaneous provisions as to orders of Commissioner

43 Service of documents

44 Offences by bodies corporate

45 Enforcement of orders of Commissioner

46 Appeals from Commissioner

47 Power to compound

48 Regulations

49 Repeal and transitional provisions

THE SCHEDULE Exempt charities

Explanatory Statement

Expenditure of Public Money

Table of Derivations

Charities Bill

Bill No. 18/1994

Read the first time on 25th July 1994.

An Act to make provision for the registration of charities, the administration of charities and their affairs, the regulation of fund-raising activities carried on in connection with charities and other institutions and the conduct of public charitable collections and for purposes connected therewith, and to repeal the Charities Act (Chapter 37 of the 1985 Revised Edition).

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

PART I

PRELIMINARY

Short title and commencement

1.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Charities Act 1994 and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

(2) The Minister may appoint different dates for the coming into operation of the different provisions of this Act.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —

“charitable company” means a charity which is a company or other body corporate;

“charitable purposes” means purposes which are exclusively charitable according to the law of Singapore;

“charity” means any institution, corporate or not, which is established for charitable purposes and is subject to the control of the High Court in exercise of the Court’s jurisdiction with respect to charities;

“charity trustees” means the persons having the general control and management of the administration of a charity;

“Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Charities appointed under section 3;

“company” means a company incorporated or registered under any law in force in Singapore or elsewhere;

“document” includes information recorded in any form, and, in relation to information recorded otherwise than in legible form —

(a) any reference to its production shall be construed as a reference to