

National Productivity Board (Amendment) Bill

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Bill No: 14/1991

Read the first time: 11th March 1991

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Explanatory Statement

Expenditure of Public Money

National Productivity Board (Amendment) Bill

Bill No. 14/1991

Read the first time on 11th March 1991.

An Act to amend the National Productivity Board Act (Chapter 200 of the 1985 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 National Productivity Board (Amendment) Act 1991 and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

Amendment of section 3

2. Section 3(2) of the National Productivity Board Act (referred to in this Act as the principal Act) is amended by deleting the words “a common seal with” in the second line.

Repeal and re-enactment of section 4, and new section 4A

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 Section 4 of the principal Act is repealed and the following sections substituted therefor:

“Constitution of Board

4.—(1) The Board shall consist of —

(a) a Chairman;

- (b) the Executive Director;
- (c) not more than 3 members representing the interests of the Government;
- (d) not more than 3 members representing the interests of employers;
- (e) not more than 3 members representing the National Trades Union Congress; and
- (f) not more than 3 members representing the professional and academic interests associated with productivity.

(2) The First Schedule shall apply to the Board, its members and proceedings.

Common seal

4A.—(1) The Board shall have a common seal and such seal may, from time to time, be broken, changed, altered and made anew as the Board thinks fit.

(2) All deeds, documents or other instruments requiring the seal of the Board shall be sealed with the common seal of the Board in the presence of the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman and one other member of the Board or the Executive Director, who shall sign every deed, document or other instrument to which the common seal is affixed and such signing shall be sufficient evidence that the seal was duly and properly affixed and that the seal is the lawful seal of the Board.

(3) The Board may, by resolution or otherwise in writing, appoint an employee of the Board or any other agent either generally or in a particular case to execute or sign on behalf of the Board an agreement or other instrument not under seal in relation to any matter within the functions of the Board.”.

Amendment of section 6

4. Section 6 of the principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after paragraph (c), the following paragraphs:

- “(ca) to promote the development and upgrading of skills and expertise of persons in employment;
- (cb) to control and administer the Skills Development Fund in accordance with the Skills Development Levy Act [Cap. 306];”.

Amendment of section 7

5. Section 7 of the principal Act is amended —

- (a) by deleting paragraph (a) and substituting the following paragraph:
- “(a) charge such amounts as the Board may from time to time determine for the use of facilities or services provided by the Board;”;
- (b) by deleting the word “and” at the end of paragraph (h);
- (c) by deleting the full-stop at the end of paragraph (i) and substituting a semi-colon, and by inserting immediately thereafter the following paragraphs:
- “(j) with the written approval of the Minister, form or participate in the formation of companies;
- (k) with the written approval of the Minister, enter into any joint ventures or arrangements for the purpose of sharing profits or otherwise for the purposes of this Act;
- (l) make or guarantee loans to persons employed by the Board for purposes specifically approved by the Board;
- (m) raise loans from the Government or, with the approval of the Minister, from any source;
- (n) carry out such functions as may, by any written law, be conferred on the Board; and
- (o) do such other acts as appear to the Board to be incidental or necessary to the discharge of its functions under this Act.”.

Repeal of section 8

6. Section 8 of the principal Act is repealed.

Repeal and re-enactment of section 10

7. Section 10 of the principal Act is repealed and the following section substituted therefor:

“Executive Director of Board

10.—(1) The Board shall, with the approval of the Minister, appoint an Executive Director of the Board on such terms and conditions as the Board may think fit.

- (2) The Executive Director shall —

- (a) be responsible to the Board for the proper administration and management of the functions and affairs of the Board in accordance with the policy laid down by the Board; and
- (b) not be removed from office without the consent of the Minister.

(3) If the Executive Director is temporarily absent from Singapore or temporarily incapacitated by illness or for any other reason temporarily unable to perform his duties, another person may be appointed by the Board to act in place of the Executive Director during such period of absence from duty.”.

Amendment of section 11

8. Section 11 of the principal Act is amended —

- (a) by deleting subsections (1) and (2) and substituting the following subsection:
 - “(1) The Board may —
 - (a) appoint such number of employees on such terms as to remuneration or otherwise as the Board may determine and may terminate their service or exercise disciplinary control over them in accordance with their terms of service; and
 - (b) engage and remunerate for their services such persons or agents as the Board considers necessary for carrying out its functions and duties.”;
- (b) by deleting the word “officers” wherever it appears in subsection (3) and substituting in each case the word “employees”, and by renumbering the subsection as subsection (2); and
- (c) by deleting the words “officers and” in the marginal note.

Amendment of section 13

9. Section 13 of the principal Act is amended —

- (a) by deleting the word “directors” and substituting the word “members”; and
- (b) by deleting the words “Directors and officers” in the marginal note and substituting the words “Members and employees”.

Repeal of sections 16 to 20 and re-enactment of sections 16 and 17