

## **Revised Edition of the Laws Bill**

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***Read the first time: 4th March 1983***

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## **Revised Edition of the Laws Bill**

### **Bill No. 3/1983**

*Read the first time on 4th March 1983.*

An Act to make provision for the preparation and publication of a revised edition of the laws of Singapore, for the annual revision thereof and for matters connected therewith.

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

### **Short title**

1. This Act may be cited as the Revised Edition of the Laws Act, 1983.

### **Interpretation**

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

“Acts” means all Acts of Parliament and includes the Constitution, the United Kingdom enactments and all Ordinances having the force of law in Singapore;

“Commissioners” means the Law Revision Commissioners appointed under section 3;

“revised edition of Acts” means the revised edition of the Acts prepared under the authority of section 3;

“revised edition of subsidiary legislation” means the revised edition, prepared under the authority of section 3, of orders in council, proclamations, rules, regulations, orders, notifications, by-laws and other forms of subsidiary legislation made under any Act or other lawful authority and having legislative effect.

### **Appointment of Commission**

3.—(1) The President may appoint a Law Revision Commission comprising, as Law Revision Commissioners, the Attorney-General and such other persons as may be appointed by the President to prepare and publish a revised edition of Acts and a revised edition of subsidiary legislation and to make an annual revision thereof in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

(2) In case any of the Commissioners, appointed under subsection (1), is unable from any cause fully to discharge his commission under this Act, the President may, by

notification in the *Gazette*, appoint some other person to be a Commissioner or temporarily in his stead to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of a Commissioner except that in case any Commissioner is unable from any cause fully to discharge his commission under this Act and no appointment has been made under this subsection, the remaining Commissioner or Commissioners shall have and may exercise all the powers and duties conferred by this Act upon the Commissioners.

### **Powers of the Commissioners**

4.—(1) In the preparation of the revised edition of Acts, the Commissioners shall have power in their discretion —

(a) to omit —

- (i) all Acts or parts of Acts which have been repealed, expressly, specifically or by necessary implication, or which have expired or have become spent or have had effect, and all Supply Acts and Acts or parts of Acts so far as they effect changes of titles;
- (ii) all repealing enactments contained in Acts and all tables or lists of repealed enactments, whether contained in schedules or otherwise;
- (iii) all preambles to Acts;
- (iv) all introductory words of enactment in any Act or section of an Act;
- (v) all enactments prescribing the date when an Act or part of an Act is to come into force;
- (vi) all amending Acts or parts of Acts where the amendments effected by such Acts or parts of Acts have been embodied by the Commissioners in the Acts to which they relate;
- (vii) all enacting clauses; and
- (viii) any parts of an Act which can more conveniently be included as rules, regulations, orders, notifications, by-laws or other instruments made under any Act or other lawful authority and having legislative effect:

Provided that section 16 of the Interpretation Act (Cap. 3) shall apply to such omissions in the same manner as if the enactments omitted had been repealed;

- (b) to arrange the grouping and sequence of Acts;
- (c) to add a long title or a short title to any Act and to alter the long title or the short title of any Act;
- (d) to supply or alter tables of contents, marginal notes, footnotes and the headings to Parts and Chapters of any Act;
- (e) to adopt a convenient standard form in all Acts for —
  - (i) the interpretation section;
  - (ii) any penal section; and
  - (iii) any section giving power to make rules, regulations or by-laws, whether such section already appears in any Act or is inserted by the Commissioners as a result of the exercise by them of the power conferred by sub-paragraph (viii) of paragraph (a) or any other power conferred upon them by this Act;
- (f) to consolidate into one Act any two or more Acts in *pari materia*, making such alterations as are thereby rendered necessary in the consolidated Act, and affixing such date thereto as may seem most convenient, and to incorporate all or any of the provisions of any Act in one or more other Acts where the provisions so incorporated relate to the same subject matter as the Act in which they are incorporated;
- (g) to divide any Act into two or more Acts and to make such amendments, including the supplying of titles or the alteration of existing titles, as are thereby rendered necessary;
- (h) to incorporate in any Act any amendment made to any schedule, form or other part by any authority under powers conferred by that Act;
- (i) to alter the order of sections of any Act, and to renumber the sections of any Act;
- (j) to alter the form of arrangement of any section of an Act by transposing words, by combining it in whole or in part with another section or other sections or by dividing it into two or more subsections;
- (k) to divide any Act, whether consolidated or not, into parts or other divisions;
- (l) to correct grammatical, typographical and similar mistakes in any Act and to make verbal additions, omissions or alterations not affecting the meaning of any Act;