

Singapore Polytechnic (Amendment) Bill

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Bill No: 42/1979

Read the first time: 11th December 1979

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Explanatory Statement

Expenditure of Public Money

Singapore Polytechnic (Amendment) Bill

Bill No. 42/1979

Read the first time on 11th December 1979.

An Act to amend the Singapore Polytechnic Act (Chapter 180 of the 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 Singapore Polytechnic (Amendment) Act, 1979, and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

Amendment of section 4

2. Section 4 of the Singapore Polytechnic Act (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the principal Act) is amended by deleting subsections (2) to (9) and substituting the following: —

“(2) The Board shall consist of the following members: —

- (a) a Chairman;
- (b) a Deputy Chairman;
- (c) the Principal of the Polytechnic; and
- (d) such other persons, not being less than nine or more than fifteen, as the Minister may from time to time determine.

(3) Every member of the Board, except the Principal of the Polytechnic, shall be appointed by the Minister and shall, unless the Minister otherwise directs, hold office for a period of three years from the date of his appointment and shall be eligible for re-appointment.”.

New sections 4A and 4B

3. The principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after section 4, the following sections: —

“Vacation of office of a member of the Board

4A.—(1) The office of a member of the Board shall be vacated if he —

- (a) becomes a bankrupt or suspends payment to, or makes any arrangement or composition with, his creditors; or

(b) has been absent, without leave of the Board, from three consecutive meetings thereof.

(2) The Minister may revoke the appointment of a member of the Board, except that of the Principal of the Polytechnic, if the member becomes in the opinion of the Minister unfit to continue in office or incapable of performing his duties.

(3) A member of the Board, except the Principal of the Polytechnic, may resign from his appointment at any time by giving written notice to the Minister.

Filling of vacancy in the office of a member of the Board

4B. If the office of a member of the Board, other than that of the Principal of the Polytechnic, is vacant, the Minister may appoint any person to fill the vacancy and the person shall be appointed for the remainder of the term of his predecessor.”.

Repeal and re-enactment of sections 6 and 7

4. Sections 6 and 7 of the principal Act are repealed and the following substituted therefor: —

“Secretary of the Board

6. The Registrar of the Polytechnic shall be the secretary of the Board, and shall attend all meetings thereof unless excused for good cause by the Chairman.

Meetings of the Board

7.—(1) The Chairman shall summon meetings of the Board as often as may be required.

(2) The quorum at every meeting of the Board shall consist of six members.

(3) Every decision at a meeting of the Board shall be adopted by a simple majority of the votes of the members present and voting, except that in the case of an equality of votes, the Chairman or, in his absence, the Deputy Chairman of the Board shall have a casting vote.

(4) The Chairman or, in his absence, the Deputy Chairman shall preside at a meeting of the Board.

(5) In the absence of the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman at a meeting of the Board, such member as the members present may elect shall preside at the meeting.

(6) The Board may grant leave of absence from a meeting of the Board to a member thereof.

(7) The Board shall not be precluded from holding a meeting or acting in any matter merely by reason of any vacancy in its membership.

(8) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Board may make standing orders to regulate its own procedure.”.

New sections 13 to 21

5. The principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after section 12, the following sections: —

“Singapore Polytechnic Students’ Union

13.—(1) There shall be a students’ association to be known as the Singapore Polytechnic Students’ Union which shall be constituted by regulations made under subsection (1) of section 21 of this Act and shall consist of such constituent bodies as may be prescribed by those regulations.

(2) The constitution, membership, functions and other matters relating to the Singapore Polytechnic Students’ Union and each of its constituent bodies shall be so prescribed.

(3) The Board may impose and collect from the students or any class thereof such fees as it may determine for the benefit of the Singapore Polytechnic Students’ Union and its constituent bodies; and such fees may be applied in such manner as the Board thinks fit for the purposes of the Union and its constituent bodies.

(4) Until such day as the Singapore Polytechnic Students’ Union is constituted by regulations made under subsection (1) of section 21 of this Act (hereinafter in this section referred to as the new Union) there shall continue to exist the Singapore Polytechnic Students’ Union as constituted before the commencement of the Singapore Polytechnic (Amendment) Act, 1979 (hereinafter in this section referred to as the old Union); but on that day the old Union shall be deemed to be dissolved and all its property, assets, rights, liabilities and obligations of every description shall be deemed to vest without any further assurance in the new Union.

Application of the Societies Act to the Students’ Union

14.—(1) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Societies Act (Cap. 262), the provisions of that Act shall apply to the Singapore Polytechnic Students’