

Women's Charter (Amendment) Bill

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Bill No: 23/1979

Read the first time: 15th May 1979

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Women's Charter (Amendment) Bill

Bill No. 23/1979

Read the first time on 15th May 1979.

An Act to amend the Women's Charter (Chapter 47 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 Women's Charter (Amendment) Act, 1979, and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

Amendment of section 9

2. Section 9 of the Women's Charter is amended by inserting, immediately before the word "licence" in the fourth line thereof, the words "special marriage".

Amendment of section 12

3. Subsection (1) of section 12 of the Women's Charter is amended —

- (a) by deleting the words "certificate for marriage" in the second line thereof and substituting therefor the words "marriage licence";
- (b) by inserting, immediately before the word "licence" in the third line thereof, the words "special marriage"; and
- (c) by inserting, immediately after the word "by" in the second line of paragraph (a) of the proviso thereto, the words "special marriage".

Amendment of section 15

4. Subsection (2) of section 15 of the Women's Charter is amended by deleting the words "his certificate" in the third line thereof and substituting therefor the words "a marriage licence".

Amendment of section 16

5. Section 16 of the Women's Charter is amended —

- (a) by deleting the words "his certificate for marriage" in the fourth line thereof and substituting therefor the words "a marriage licence";
- (b) by deleting the word "certificate" in the first line of the first proviso thereto

- and substituting therefor the word “licence”;
- (c) by inserting, immediately after the word “is” in the second line of paragraph (b)(i) of the first proviso thereto, the words “divorced or is”;
 - (d) by deleting the words “his certificate” in the fourth line of the second proviso thereto and substituting therefor the words “the marriage licence”;
and
 - (e) by deleting the word “certificate” in the marginal note thereto and substituting therefor the words “marriage licence”.

Amendment of section 18

6. Subsection (1) of section 18 of the Women’s Charter is amended by deleting the word “certificate” in the third line thereof and substituting therefor the word “licence”.

Amendment of section 19

7. Section 19 of the Women’s Charter is amended —

- (a) by deleting the word “certificate” in the third line of subsection (1) thereof and substituting therefor the word “licence”;
- (b) by deleting the word “certificate” in the third line of paragraph (a) of subsection (1) thereof and substituting therefor the word “licence”;
- (c) by deleting the words “certificate for marriage” in the first and second lines and at the end of subsection (2) thereof and substituting therefor in each case the words “marriage licence”; and
- (d) by deleting the words “certificate for marriage” in the third line of subsection (6) thereof and substituting therefor the words “marriage licence”.

Amendment of section 20

8. Section 20 of the Women’s Charter is amended —

- (a) by deleting the words “certificate for marriage, and may grant his” in the seventh and eighth lines of subsection (1) thereof and substituting therefor the words “marriage licence, and may grant a special marriage”;
- (b) by inserting, immediately before the word “licence” in the first line of subsection (2) thereof, the words “special marriage”;
- (c) by deleting the words “the female” in the third line of subsection (2) thereof and substituting therefor the word “any”;

- (d) by inserting, immediately before the word “licence” in the first line of subsection (3) thereof, the words “special marriage”; and
- (e) by deleting the marginal note thereto and substituting therefor the words “Special marriage licence.”.

Amendment of section 21

9. Subsection (1) of section 21 of the Women’s Charter is amended by deleting the words “certificate for marriage or a” in the second and third lines thereof and substituting therefor the words “marriage licence or a special marriage”.

Amendment of section 22

10. Subsection (2) of section 22 of the Women’s Charter is amended —

- (a) by deleting the words “certificate for the marriage or a” in the first and second lines thereof and substituting therefor the words “licence for the marriage or a special”; and
- (b) by deleting the last twelve lines thereof and substituting therefor the following: —

““Be it understood that by publicly taking each other as man and wife before me and in the presence of these witnesses, you become legally married to each other even though no other ceremony of a civil or religious nature has taken place. This marriage cannot be dissolved during your lifetime except by a valid judgment of the Court and if either of you before the death of the other marries again while this marriage subsists, you will be guilty of an offence.”.”.

Amendment of section 33

11. Section 33 of the Women’s Charter is amended —

- (a) by re-numbering the existing section as subsection (1) and by inserting, immediately after the word “shall” in the third line thereof, the words “be guilty of an offence and shall”; and
- (b) by inserting, immediately after subsection (1) thereof, the following subsection: —

“(2) The Registrar may, in his discretion, compound any such offence by collecting from the person reasonably suspected of having committed the same a sum of money not exceeding four hundred dollars.”.