

Mutual Benefit Organisations (Amendment) Bill

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Bill No: 2/1974

Read the first time: 4th March 1974

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Expenditure of Public Money

Mutual Benefit Organisations (Amendment) Bill

Bill No. 2/1974

Read the first time on 4th March 1974.

An Act to amend the Mutual Benefit Organisations Act (Chapter 254 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 Mutual Benefit Organisations (Amendment) Act, 1974, and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

Amendment of section 2

2. Section 2 of the Mutual Benefit Organisations Act (hereinafter in this Act referred to as “the principal Act”) is hereby amended by inserting immediately after the definition of “ “mutual benefit organisation” or “organisation” ” appearing therein the following new definition: —

“ “officer” means the president, the secretary and members of a committee of an organisation and includes persons holding positions analogous to those of president, secretary or member of a committee.”.

Repeal and re-enactment of sections 5, 6 and 7

3. Sections 5, 6 and 7 of the principal Act are hereby repealed and the following substituted therefor: —

“Registration and issue of certificate of registration

5.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Registrar shall, upon an application being made therefor by a mutual benefit organisation and on payment of the prescribed fee, register the organisation with or without conditions.

(2) Upon registering an organisation under subsection (1) of this section, the Registrar shall issue to that organisation a certificate of registration.

(3) The certificate of registration referred to in subsection (2) of this section shall be conclusive evidence that the organisation mentioned therein is duly registered, unless it is proved that the registration of the organisation has been suspended or cancelled.

(4) Where the organisation is registered under subsection (1) of this section subject to conditions, the organisation shall comply with those conditions.

(5) The Registrar may at any time vary or revoke any of the conditions imposed

under subsection (1) of this section or impose conditions or additional conditions in respect of the registration of an organisation.

Refusal to register mutual benefit organisation

6.—(1) The Registrar shall refuse to register a mutual benefit organisation if he is satisfied that —

- (a) the rules of the organisation are insufficient to provide for its proper management and control;
- (b) the organisation is likely to be used for unlawful purposes or for purposes prejudicial to public peace, welfare or good order in Singapore;
- (c) any officer or person managing or assisting in the management of the organisation is not of good character;
- (d) the scheme for the relief or maintenance of the members thereof or subscribers thereto as provided for in the rules and objects of the organisation is undesirable and not in the interest of the members or subscribers;
- (e) the total number of members thereof or subscribers thereto is less than fifty;
- (f) the application for registration does not comply with the provisions of this Act or any rules made thereunder;
- (g) the rules and objects of the organisation are contrary to the provisions of this Act or any regulations made thereunder;
- (h) it would be contrary to the public interest for the organisation to be registered.

(2) The Registrar may refuse to register a mutual benefit organisation if —

- (a) it appears to him that the name under which the organisation is to be registered is —
 - (i) identical with or so nearly resembles that of any other existing organisation as is likely to deceive the members of the public as to its nature or identity; or
 - (ii) likely to mislead members of the public as to the true character and purpose of the organisation; or