Legal Profession (Amendment) Bill

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Legal Profession (Amendment) Bill

Bill No. 6/1970

Read the first time on 9th March 1970.

An Act to amend the Legal Profession Act, 1966 (No. 57 of 1966).

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 Legal Profession (Amendment) Act, 1970.

Amendment of section 2

2. Section 2 of the Legal Profession Act, 1966 (hereinafter in this Act referred to as "the principal Act") is hereby amended —

(a) by deleting the definition of "annual certificate" appearing therein; and

- (b) by deleting the definition of "Society" appearing therein and substituting therefor the following:
 - ""Society" means The Law Society of Singapore established by section 41 of this Act.".

Amendment of section 14

3. Section 14 of the principal Act is hereby amended —

- (a) by deleting the expression "section 10" appearing in the third line of subsection (1) thereof and substituting therefor the expression "paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 9";
- (b) by inserting immediately after the word "pupillage" appearing in the last line of paragraph (c) of subsection (4) thereof the words "or in the absence thereof such other evidence as the court may require that he has served such pupillage with diligence"; and
- (c) by deleting the figures "10" appearing in the marginal note thereto and substituting therefor the expression "9 (1)".

Amendment of section 18

4. Subsection (1) of section 18 of the principal Act is hereby amended by deleting the words "for one or more special reasons and" appearing in the second and third lines thereof.

Amendment of section 29

5. Section 29 of the principal Act is hereby amended —

(a) by deleting subsection (1) thereof and substituting therefor the following: —

"(1) Every solicitor shall in every year before he does any act in the capacity of an advocate and solicitor deliver or cause to be delivered to the Registrar an application for a practising certificate in such form or forms as may be prescribed by and in accordance with rules made under this section, such application to be accompanied by —

- (a) a declaration in writing stating
 - (i) his full name;
 - (ii) the name under which he practises if

different from his own name, or the name of the solicitor or firm of solicitors employing him; and

- (iii) the principal and any other address or addresses at which he practises in Singapore;
- (b) a certificate from the Council or such other evidence as the Registrar may require that he is not in arrears in respect of any contribution to the Compensation Fund, subscription or levy lawfully due to the Society under the provisions of this Act and that he has paid all such subscriptions and contributions payable prior to the issue of a practising certificate pursuant to sections 51 and 78 of this Act;
- (c) an accountant's report pursuant to section 77 of this Act or a certificate from the Council that owing to the circumstances of his case such report is unnecessary; and
- (*d*) the prescribed duty,

and the Registrar shall thereupon issue to the solicitor a practising certificate authorising him to practise as an advocate and solicitor in Singapore."; and

(b) by inserting immediately after subsection (4) thereof the following new subsections: —

"(5) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Council may make rules regulating the issue of practising certificates.

(6) Any rules made by the Council under this section shall be signed by the President of the Society and submitted to the Chief Justice and shall come into operation upon the Chief Justice signifying his approval.".

Amendment of section 30

6. Subsection (2) of section 30 of the principal Act is hereby amended by inserting immediately after the word "Board" appearing in the fourth line thereof the expression ", the Jurong Town Corporation".