

Trees and Plants (Preservation and Improvement of Amenities) Bill

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Bill No: 48/1970

Read the first time: 4th November 1970

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Trees and Plants (Preservation and Improvement of Amenities) Bill

Bill No. 48/1970

Read the first time on 4th November 1970.

An Act to provide for the preservation and growing of trees and plants.

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 Trees and Plants (Preservation and Improvement of Amenities) Act, 1970, and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

Interpretation

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

“occupier”, in relation to any land, means any person in actual occupation of the land, and includes the owner of the land and any other person in receipt of the rents or profits thereof, and any agent or trustee of an occupier of the land;

“plants” includes shrubs, climbers, creepers, hedges, ferns, flowers and lawn-grasses;

“Superintendent” means the Superintendent of Trees and Plants appointed under section 3 of this Act.

“vacant land” means any land which has not been developed for residential or industrial purposes, and includes any land on which any building or structure has been erected in contravention of any written law or in respect of which a temporary permit has been issued by the Chief Building Surveyor.

Appointment of Superintendent of Trees and Plants and other officers

3.—(1) The Minister may appoint an officer to be known as the Superintendent of Trees and Plants and such other officers as may be necessary for the purpose of administering and carrying out the provisions of this Act.

(2) The Superintendent shall, subject to any general or special directions of the Minister, have charge of the administration of this Act.

(3) Subject to any general or special directions of the Minister or the Superintendent, the powers conferred and duties imposed on the Superintendent by this Act, or any rules made thereunder, may be exercised or performed by any other officer appointed under subsection (1) of this section.

Restriction on felling or cutting of trees exceeding five feet in girth

4.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act no person shall, without the written permission of the Superintendent, fell or cut any tree, with a girth exceeding five feet, growing on any vacant land or such other lands as the Minister may, by order published in the *Gazette*, designate except where —

- (a) the felling or cutting is for the prevention of imminent danger; or
- (b) the felling or cutting is in compliance with any obligation imposed by or under any written law.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1) of this section, the girth of a tree shall be measured two feet from the ground.

Application for written permission to fell or cut trees

5.—(1) An application for written permission under section 4 of this Act shall be made to the Superintendent in the prescribed manner by a person having such estate or interest in the land on which the tree is growing as would enable him, with or without the consent of any other person, to fell or cut the tree.