

Women's Charter (Amendment) Bill

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Bill No: 46/1966

Read the first time: 26th October 1966

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Women's Charter (Amendment) Bill

Bill No. 46/1966

Read the first time on 26th October 1966.

An Act to amend the Women's Charter, 1961 (No. 18 of 1961).

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 Women’s Charter (Amendment) Act, 1966.

Amendment of section 2

2. Section 2 of the Women’s Charter, 1961 (hereinafter in this Act referred to as “the Ordinance”) is hereby amended —

- (a) by inserting immediately after the definition of “Director” appearing therein the following new definition: —

“ “married woman” means a woman validly married under any law, religion, custom or usage;”; and

- (b) by inserting immediately after the definition of “Registrar” appearing therein the following new definition: —

“ “solemnization”, with its grammatical variations and cognate expressions, includes the contracting of a marriage or effecting a marriage in accordance with the law, religion, custom or usage of the parties or any of the parties thereto;”.

Amendment of section 3

3. Section 3 of the Ordinance is hereby amended —

- (a) by deleting the expression “Subject to the provisions of subsection (2) of this section” appearing at the beginning of subsection (1) thereof and substituting therefor the words “Save as is otherwise expressly provided”;
- (b) by deleting the word “resident” appearing in the second and third lines of subsection (1) thereof;
- (c) by deleting the expression “section 166” appearing in the first line of subsection (2) thereof and substituting therefor the expression “sections 166 and 166A”;
- (d) by substituting a colon for the full-stop appearing at the end of subsection (2) thereof and by adding thereto the following proviso: —

“Provided that the provisions of sections 4, 5 and 6 of this Ordinance shall apply to any person who contracts or purports to contract any such marriage during the subsistence of a marriage registered or deemed to be registered under the provisions of this Ordinance or which was contracted under a law providing that or in contemplation of which the marriage is monogamous.”; and

- (e) by deleting the words “one of the parties to which is a Muslim” appearing in the first line of subsection (3) thereof and substituting therefor the words “both of the parties to which are Muslims”.

Amendment of section 4

4. Section 4 of the Ordinance is hereby amended —

- (a) by deleting the expression “2nd day of March, 1961,” wherever it appears therein and substituting therefor the words “date of the coming into operation of this Ordinance”; and
- (b) by inserting immediately after subsection (3) thereof the following new subsection: —

“(4) Nothing in this section shall affect the operation of Part III of this Ordinance in relation to marriages solemnized in Singapore after the date of the coming into operation of this Ordinance.”.

Amendment of section 5

5. Section 5 of the Ordinance is hereby amended —

- (a) by deleting the word “invalid” appearing at the end of subsection (1) thereof and in the marginal note thereto and substituting therefor in each case the word “void”; and
- (b) by deleting subsection (2) thereof and substituting therefor the following: —

“(2) If any male person lawfully married under any law, religion, custom or usage shall during the continuance of such marriage contract a union with a woman, such woman shall have no right of succession or inheritance on the death intestate of such male person.”.

Amendment of section 7

6. Section 7 of the Ordinance is hereby amended —

- (a) by inserting immediately after the word “Ordinance” appearing in the second line thereof the words “other than a marriage which is void under the provisions of this Ordinance”; and
- (b) by deleting the words “or invalid” appearing at the end of paragraph (c) thereof.