

# **National Registration Bill**

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**Bill No: 60/1965**

***Read the first time: 13th December 1965***

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### **National Registration Bill**

**Bill No. 60/1965**

*Read the first time on 13th December 1965.*

An Act to provide for the registration of persons in Singapore, for the issue of identity cards and for purposes connected therewith, and to repeal the Registration of Persons Ordinance, 1955 (No. 32 of 1955).

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 National Registration Act, 1965, 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 —

“Commissioner” means the Commissioner of National Registration appointed under section 3;

“householder” means the owner, tenant, sub-tenant or occupier of a house, shophouse, flat, apartment, hut or other dwelling place;

“identity card” means an identity card issued under the provisions of this Act, and includes an identity card issued or deemed to be issued under the Registration of Persons Ordinance, 1955 (Ord. 32 of 1955);

“registration officer” means the Commissioner of National Registration and includes the Deputy Commissioner of National Registration, any Assistant Commissioner of National Registration and any person appointed as a registration officer under section 3.

## **Appointment of officers**

3.—(1) The Minister may appoint a Commissioner of National Registration, a Deputy Commissioner of National Registration and such number of Assistant Commissioners of National Registration and registration officers as the Minister may consider necessary or expedient for the purposes of this Act.

(2) The Commissioner shall, subject to the general direction and control of the Minister, perform the duties and exercise the rights and powers imposed and conferred upon him by this Act.

(3) The Deputy Commissioner of National Registration, the Assistant Commissioners of National Registration and all registration officers shall be under the direction and control of the Commissioner.

## **Establishment of register**

4.—(1) The Commissioner shall cause to be kept and maintained a register of all persons in Singapore who are required to be registered under the provisions of this Act.

(2) The register shall be in such form and shall contain such particulars as the Minister may require.

## **Registration**

5. Subject to the provisions of section 6 and any exemptions which may be granted by

regulations made under section 19, every person lawfully resident within Singapore shall be registered under and in accordance with the provisions of this Act and of any regulations made thereunder.

### **Registration of persons in possession of identity cards**

6.—(1) Every person who, on the date of the coming into operation of this Act is in possession of a valid identity card issued or deemed to be issued under the provisions of the Registration of Persons Ordinance, 1955 (Ord. 32 of 1955), shall apply to be registered under the provisions of this Act within such period as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, specify.

(2) All identity cards issued or deemed to be issued under the provisions of the Registration of Persons Ordinance, 1955 (Ord. 32 of 1955), shall cease to be valid at the expiration of the period within which persons in possession of such identity cards are required to be registered under subsection (1).

(3) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any person who, on the date of the coming into operation of this Act, is in possession of a valid identity card issued or deemed to be issued under the provisions of the Registration of Persons Ordinance, 1955, but who has not been granted unrestricted residence in Singapore under any written law relating to immigration in force in Singapore.

### **Issue of identity cards**

7. Every person registered under this Act shall be issued with an identity card.

### **Change of residence**

8. Any person registered under the provisions of this Act who changes his place of residence shall, within fourteen days thereof, report such change to a registration officer.

### **Returns by householders**

9.—(1) Every householder shall, when so required in writing by a registration officer, submit in respect of his household such returns at such times during the year, as may be prescribed for the carrying out of the provisions of this Act.

(2) Such returns shall be sent by a householder to such public officer or statutory authority as may be declared by the Minister by notification in the *Gazette* to be a public officer or statutory authority for the purposes of this section.

(3) The owner, manager or other person in charge of a hotel, boarding house, hostel or other like dwelling place may be required by a registration officer to submit the returns required under subsection (1).

### **Cancellation of identity card**

**10.** Where a person has been registered under the provisions of this Act and the Minister is satisfied that the registration —

- (a) was obtained by means of fraud, false representation or the concealment of any material fact; or
- (b) was effected by mistake,

the Minister may by order require the Commissioner to cancel the registration of such person.

### **Onus of proof of contents of written applications and of identity cards, etc**

**11.** The onus of proving the truth of the contents of any written application for registration made under the provisions of this Act and of any regulations made thereunder or the contents of an identity card shall be on the applicant or on the person to whom such identity card has been issued or on any other person alleging the truth of such contents.

### **Proof of citizenship by birth**

**12.—**(1) No claim by a person, seeking to be registered under this Act that he is a citizen of Singapore by birth shall, subject to the provisions of subsection (3), be accepted by a registration officer if the person making the claim does not produce a birth certificate or other evidence to his satisfaction.

(2) The onus of proving the status of citizenship of Singapore by birth shall be on the person who makes such claim.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (1), the evidence of —

- (a) a birth certificate without the name of the child;
- (b) a birth certificate without the name of the child, but supported by a statutory declaration to the effect that the birth certificate refers to the birth of the person referred to in the statutory declaration; or
- (c) an identity card issued or deemed to be issued under the provisions of the Registration of Persons Ordinance, 1955 (Ord. 32 of 1955), wherein the holder of the identity card is stated to have been born in Singapore,

shall not necessarily be sufficient evidence for the purposes of subsection (1).

### **Offences and penalties**

**13.—**(1) Any person who —