

Singapore National Referendum Ordinance

Table of Contents

Bill No: 156/1961

Read the first time: 27th November 1961

Long Title

Enacting Formula

Part I PRELIMINARY

1 Short title

2 Interpretation

3 Appointment of officers

4 Appointment of clerks and interpreters

Part II REFERENDUM

5 Order for referendum to be taken

6 Notification of referendum

7 Further order if necessary

8 Entitlement to vote

9 Single vote

10 Registers of electors to be conclusive evidence of right to vote

11 Electoral divisions and polling districts

- 12 Polling stations, polling places and symbols**
- 13 Notification of polling stations and symbols**
- 14 Polling day at referendum to be public holiday**
- 15 Presiding officers**
- 16 Facilities to be provided at polling stations**
- 17 Admittance to polling station**
- 18 Poll by ballot and ballot papers**
- 19 Ballot boxes**
- 20 Manner of voting**
- 21 Compulsory voting**
- 22 Identification by voters**
- 23 Spoilt ballot papers**
- 24 Tendered voters**
- 25 Closing of voting**
- 26 Procedure on closing of voting**
- 27 Counting votes**
- 28 Votes to be rejected**
- 29 Publication of statement of referendum in the *Gazette***
- 30 Failure to comply with provisions of Ordinance**
- 31 Offences**

32 Maintenance of secrecy at referendum

Part III CORRUPT AND ILLEGAL PRACTICES

33 Personation

34 Treating

35 Undue influence

36 Bribery

37 Punishment and incapacities for corrupt practice

38 Use of motor vehicles at referendum

39 Employers to allow employees reasonable period for voting

40 Badges, symbols, etc., prohibited

41 Punishment on conviction for illegal practice

42 Prohibition of canvassing

43 Undue influence at or near polling station

44 Unlawful assembly

45 Offence to operate loudspeakers

46 Restriction on referendum activity

Part IV GENERAL

47 Minister may make regulations

48 Inaccurate description of persons and places

49 Publication of notices, etc

50 Use of schools as polling stations

Explanatory Statement

Expenditure of Public Money

Singapore National Referendum Ordinance

Bill No. 156/1961

Read the first time on 27th November 1961.

An Ordinance to provide for the holding of a national referendum and for matters connected therewith.

Be it enacted by the Yang di-Pertuan Negara with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Singapore, as follows: —

PART I

PRELIMINARY

Short title

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Singapore National Referendum Ordinance, 1961.

Interpretation

2. In this Ordinance —

“elector” means a person whose name is entered as an elector in a register of electors prepared under the provisions of the Singapore Legislative Assembly Elections Ordinance (Cap. 53);

“referendum” means the submission to the electors of any matter by an order of the Yang di-Pertuan Negara made in accordance with the provisions of subsection (1) of section 5 of this Ordinance;

“Superintendent” means the Superintendent appointed under section 3 of this Ordinance;

“voter” means a person who, whether his name does or does not appear in a register of electors prepared under the provisions of the Singapore Legislative Assembly Elections Ordinance, applies to vote or votes at a referendum.

Appointment of officers

3.—(1) The Minister may appoint a Superintendent and such Assistant Superintendents as he may from time to time think fit.

(2) An Assistant Superintendent shall have all the powers and may perform all the duties of the Superintendent and any reference in this Ordinance to the Superintendent shall, unless the context otherwise requires, be deemed to include a reference to an Assistant Superintendent.

(3) An appointment made by the Minister under this section may be revoked by him at any time.

Appointment of clerks and interpreters

4. The Superintendent may from time to time appoint such numbers of clerks and interpreters as may be necessary for the purposes of this Ordinance and such appointments may be revoked at any time.

PART II

REFERENDUM

Order for referendum to be taken

5.—(1) Whenever the Yang di-Pertuan Negara considers that it is in the public interest to do so he may by order direct that any matter be submitted to the electors for a referendum.

(2) Where a matter is submitted to the electors for a referendum, the vote shall be given in such manner as is prescribed in this Ordinance.

Notification of referendum

6. On the Yang di-Pertuan Negara issuing the order referred to in section 5 of this Ordinance, the Minister shall notify in the *Gazette* the date of the referendum at least seven days before the day fixed for such referendum.