

**Political Donations Act  
(CHAPTER 236)**

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**POLITICAL DONATIONS ACT**

**(CHAPTER 236)**

**(Original Enactment: Act 20 of 2000)**

**REVISED EDITION 2001**

**(31st December 2001)**

An Act to regulate donations to political parties and political associations and to candidates and election agents in a parliamentary election or presidential election so as to prohibit foreign donations and restrict anonymous donations thereto and for matters connected therewith.

[15th February 2001]

## PART I

### PRELIMINARY

#### Short title

1.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Political Donations Act.

#### Interpretation

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

“anonymous donation” means a donation which the recipient is (whether because the donation is offered anonymously or by reason of deception or concealment) unable to ascertain the identity of the person giving the donation;

“bequest” includes any form of testamentary disposition;

“candidate” means a person who is nominated as a candidate at an election or at a presidential election, and includes any person (whether or not a member of any political association) who, on or after the date of the issue of a writ for the election or presidential election, as the case may be, is declared, by himself or others, as seeking nomination as a candidate at that election or (as the case may be) presidential election;

“donation report” means a report required to be prepared under section 12, 18, 19 or 21;

“election” has the same meaning as in the Parliamentary Elections Act (Cap. 218);

“election agent”, in relation to a candidate, means the person named as his election agent under section 62(1) of the Parliamentary Elections Act or section 43(1) of the Presidential Elections Act (Cap. 240A);

“gift” includes bequest;

“market value”, in relation to any property, means the price which that property might reasonably be expected to fetch on a sale in the open market;

“nomination day” means the day of nomination at an election or presidential election, as the case may be;

“organisation” includes any body corporate (other than a body established by written law) and any combination of persons or other unincorporated association;

“permissible donor” means —

- (a) an individual who is a citizen of Singapore and is not less than 21 years of age;
- (b) a Singapore-controlled company which carries on business wholly or mainly in Singapore; or
- (c) in relation to a candidate, any political party he is standing for at an election;

“political association” means —

- (a) a political party or an organisation which has as one of its objects or activities the promotion or procuring of the election to Parliament or to the office of President of a candidate or candidates endorsed by the organisation; or
- (b) an organisation (not being a branch of any organisation) whose objects or activities relate wholly or mainly to politics in Singapore and which is declared by the Minister, by order in the *Gazette*, to be a political association for the purposes of this Act;

“presidential election” means an election under the Presidential Elections Act (Cap. 240A);

“principal election agent” has the same meaning as in the Presidential Elections Act;

“property” includes any description of property, and references to the provision of property accordingly include the supply of goods;

“recordable donation”, in relation to any donation report, means a donation required by this Act to be recorded in that report;

“Registrar” means the Registrar of Political Donations appointed under section 7, and includes any Assistant Registrar appointed under that section;

“reporting period” means any period for which a donation report is required to be prepared under this Act;