

**National Registration Act
(CHAPTER 201)**

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NATIONAL REGISTRATION ACT

(CHAPTER 201)

(Original Enactment: Act 11 of 1965)

REVISED EDITION 1992

(9th March 1992)

An Act for the registration of persons in Singapore, for the issue of identity cards and for purposes connected therewith.

[5th May 1966]

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the National Registration Act.

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 [Ordinance 32 of 1955];

“registration officer” means the Commissioner of National Registration, 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 as the Minister may consider necessary or expedient for the purposes of this Act.

(1A) The Commissioner may appoint such number of registration officers as he may think fit for the purposes of this Act.

(1B) The Deputy Commissioner of National Registration and the Assistant Commissioners of National Registration shall have and may exercise all the powers conferred on the Commissioner under this Act, subject to such limitations as the Commissioner may think fit to impose.

(1C) Any person appointed by the Commissioner under subsection (1A) shall be deemed to be a public servant within the meaning of the Penal Code [Cap. 224].

(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.

[20/90]

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 Commissioner thinks fit.

(3) A copy of or extract from any document, including a copy produced by way of microfilm or computer print-out, filed or lodged at the office of the Commissioner, certified to be a true copy or an extract under the hand and seal of the Commissioner

shall in any proceedings be admissible in evidence as of equal validity with the original document.

[20/90]

Registration

5. Subject to 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.

Re-registration of persons in possession of identity cards

6.—(1) Every person who, on 3rd June 1990, is in possession of a valid identity card issued under this Act shall re-register under this Act within such period as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, specify.

(2) All identity cards issued under this Act before such date shall cease to be valid on the expiration of the period within which persons in possession of such identity cards are required to be re-registered under subsection (1).

[20/90]

Issue of identity cards

7. Subject to the provisions of this Act and any regulations made thereunder, every person registered under this Act shall be issued with an identity card.

[20/90]

Change of residence

8. Any person registered under the provisions of this Act who changes his place of residence shall, within 28 days thereof, report the 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 registration

10.—(1) 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 that person.

(2) Any person whose registration is cancelled under this section shall forthwith surrender his identity card to the Commissioner.

[20/90]

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 any regulations made thereunder or the contents of an identity card shall be on the applicant or on the person to whom the identity card was issued or on any other person alleging the truth of the 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 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 the claim.

(3) 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 [Ordinance 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).