

Diplomatic Privileges (Commonwealth Countries and Republic of Ireland) Act (CHAPTER 83)

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DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES (COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES AND REPUBLIC OF IRELAND) ACT

(CHAPTER 83)

(Original Enactment: Ordinance 37 of 1957)

REVISED EDITION 1985

(30th March 1987)

An Act to confer upon certain officers of Commonwealth countries and the Republic of Ireland in Singapore reciprocal privileges and immunities.

[13th December 1957]

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Diplomatic Privileges (Commonwealth Countries and Republic of Ireland) Act.

Interpretation

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

“Commonwealth officer” means an officer of a country to which this Act applies for the time being recognised by the Government of Singapore as an officer of that country performing in Singapore functions substantially corresponding to those which in the case of a foreign power would be performed by a consular officer;

“consular officer” has the same meaning as in the Consular Conventions Act [Cap. 52];

“employee” means any person employed at the office of a Commonwealth officer for the performance of executive, administrative, clerical, technical or professional duties or as a guard, messenger or driver of a vehicle whose name has been communicated by the Commonwealth officer to the Minister, but does not include any person employed on domestic duties;

“office” means any building or part of a building which is exclusively occupied for the purpose of the official business of a Commonwealth officer.

Restriction of powers of entry into offices

3.—(1) Subject to this section, the office of a Commonwealth officer shall not be entered by a police officer or other person acting in the execution of any warrant or other legal process or in the exercise of powers conferred by or under any written law (whether passed before or after the commencement of this Act) or otherwise, except with the consent of the Commonwealth officer in charge of the office or, if that consent is withheld or cannot be obtained, with the consent of the Minister.

(2) Nothing in this section shall apply to any entry effected —

(a) in pursuance of section 7(a) of the Fire Service Act (which confers power to enter premises for the purpose of extinguishing fire) or any other written