



# **THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE**

## **HOMES FOR THE AGED ACT 1988**

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# Homes for the Aged Act 1988

## ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

### Section

1. Short title
2. Interpretation
3. Homes to which this Act applies
4. Licensing of homes
5. Refusal to issue licence
6. Revocation and suspension of licence
7. Appeal
8. Duration of licence
9. Display of licence
10. Transfer of licence
11. Transfer or revocation of licence upon death of licensee
12. Termination of licence where licensee disposes of home
13. Registers
14. Inspection
15. Directions as to apparatus and equipment
16. Duty to provide information
17. Offences by bodies corporate
18. Restriction on disclosure of information
19. Exemption
20. Regulations

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An Act to provide for the control, licensing and inspection of homes for the aged and for purposes connected therewith.

[1 February 1989]

### **Short title**

1. This Act is the Homes for the Aged Act 1988.

**Interpretation**

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

“Director-General” means the Director-General of Social Welfare and includes any person who is authorised by the Director-General to perform any of the duties or exercise any of the powers of the Director-General under this Act or any of its regulations;

“home for the aged” means any establishment the object of which is, or is held out to be, the provision of residential accommodation with board and personal care for 5 or more old persons, whether able-bodied or disabled, but does not include —

- (a) premises which form part of any premises, including maternity homes, used or intended to be used solely for the reception, lodging and treatment and care of persons who require medical treatment or suffer from any disease;
- (b) premises used or intended to be used solely for the reception of, and the provision of nursing for, persons suffering or convalescing from any sickness, injury or infirmity;
- (c) premises used solely for the reception and care of dying or terminally ill persons; and
- (d) any other premises that may be prescribed;

“licence” means a licence issued under section 4 in respect of a home, and “licensed” and “licensee” have corresponding meanings;

“old person” means any person of the age of 60 years and above;

“resident”, in relation to a home, means any old person, except a member of the staff, residing in the home.

[30/2019]

**Homes to which this Act applies**

3.—(1) The homes to which this Act applies are homes for the aged.

(2) Despite anything in this Act, the Director-General may, upon the application of a person carrying on a home for the aged, approve for admission into the home any person whose age is between 50 and 60 years.

[30/2019]

### **Licensing of homes**

4.—(1) Any person who carries on a home for the aged without being licensed under this Act shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to both.

(2) An application for the issue of a licence must be in such form as may be approved by the Director-General.

[30/2019]

(3) Subject to the provisions of this section and section 5, the Director-General must, on receipt of an application under subsection (2), issue a licence in respect of the home named in the application subject to any conditions that the Director-General may think fit to impose.

[30/2019]

(4) If any condition imposed by or under subsection (3) is not complied with, the person carrying on the home shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000.

### **Refusal to issue licence**

5. The Director-General may refuse to issue a licence if the Director-General is satisfied —

- (a) that the applicant or any person employed or proposed to be employed by the applicant in the management of the home or part of the home is not a fit person, whether by reason of age or otherwise, to carry on or to be so employed at the home named in the application;
- (b) that for reasons connected with the situation, construction, state of repair, accommodation, staffing or equipment, the home or any premises used in connection with the home are not fit to be used as a home for the aged; or