



THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

PUBLIC ORDER ACT 2009

2020 REVISED EDITION

This revised edition incorporates all amendments up to and including 1 December 2021 and comes into operation on 31 December 2021.

Prepared and Published by

THE LAW REVISION COMMISSION
UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF
THE REVISED EDITION OF THE LAWS ACT 1983

Public Order Act 2009

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

PART 1

PRELIMINARY

Section

1. Short title
2. General interpretation
3. Meanings of “organising” and “taking part in”
4. Commissioner and authorised officers

PART 2

ASSEMBLIES AND PROCESSIONS

5. Regulation of public assemblies and public processions
6. Advance notice of public assembly or public procession
- 6A. Advance notice of events having prescribed crowd size
7. Permit for public assembly or public procession
8. Conditions applying to public assembly or public procession
9. Form and validity of permit
10. When permit may be cancelled
11. Appeal to Minister
12. Prohibited areas
13. Power to prohibit assembly or procession in public interest
14. Unrestricted areas
15. Offences in prohibited areas, etc.
16. Other offences in relation to assemblies or processions
17. Defences
18. Obstructing free passage of any ambulance, etc.
19. Legal immunity for participant in lawful assembly or procession

PART 3

SPECIAL EVENTS SECURITY

20. Interpretation of this Part
21. Declaration of special event by Commissioner

Section

- 21A. Enhanced security special event declared by Minister
- 22. Statutory conditions of entry
- 23. Tickets sellers to inform of statutory conditions of entry
- 24. Inspection of personal property, etc., as condition of entry
- 25. Search of person
- 26. Prohibited items
- 27. Security screening at special event area of enhanced security special event
- 28. Power to require reasons for entry to special event area of enhanced security special event
- 29. Refusal of entry and removal from special event area of enhanced security special event
- 30. Directions to event organiser
- 31. Unauthorised entry to special event area of enhanced security special event, etc.
- 32. Interference with enhanced security special event, etc.
- 32A. Interception, etc., of unmanned aircraft
- 33. Saving of operation of Part 2

PART 4

POWERS TO PRESERVE AND MAINTAIN PUBLIC ORDER

- 34. Application of this Part
- 35. When power applies to behaviour
- 36. Direction to move on
- 37. Contravening direction to move on
- 38. Seizure of films of law enforcement activities
- 39. Obstruction of police officers under section 29 or 38 or Commissioner under section 30(11)

PART 5

MISCELLANEOUS

- 40. Power of arrest
- 41. Composition of offences
- 42. Owner or occupier of premises where unlawful assembly, etc., takes place
- 43. Onus of proof
- 44. Offences by bodies corporate, etc.
- 45. Service of documents, etc.
- 46. Power to exempt

Section

- 47. Regulations
 - 48. Application of other laws
-

An Act to regulate assemblies and processions in public places, to provide powers necessary for preserving public order and the safety of individuals at special event areas, to supplement other laws relating to the preservation and maintenance of public order in public places.

[9 October 2009]

PART 1

PRELIMINARY

Short title

1. This Act is the Public Order Act 2009.

General interpretation

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

“act of terrorism” means any of the following:

- (a) a terrorist bombing offence within the meaning of the Terrorism (Suppression of Bombings) Act 2007;
- (b) a terrorist act within the meaning of the Terrorism (Suppression of Financing) Act 2002;

“assembly” means a gathering or meeting (whether or not comprising any lecture, talk, address, debate or discussion) of persons the purpose (or one of the purposes) of which is —

- (a) to demonstrate support for or opposition to the views or actions of any person, group of persons or any government;
- (b) to publicise a cause or campaign; or