

STATUTE LAW REFORM ACT 2021

No. 4 of 2021.

An Act to amend the Revised Edition of the Laws Act (Chapter 275 of the 1995 Revised Edition) in support of a universal revision of Acts and to make related amendments to the Interpretation Act (Chapter 1 of the 2002 Revised Edition), to amend the Interpretation Act in relation to the delegation of Ministerial functions, to amend the Parliament (Privileges, Immunities and Powers) Act (Chapter 217 of the 2000 Revised Edition) in support of sittings of Parliament under continuity arrangements, and to repeal or amend certain other Acts.

Be it enacted by the President with the advice and consent of the Parliament of Singapore, as follows:

Short title and commencement

1. This Act is the Statute Law Reform Act 2021 and comes into operation on a date that the Minister appoints by notification in the *Gazette*.

PART 1**UNIVERSAL REVISION OF ACTS****Amendment of long title**

2. The long title to the Revised Edition of the Laws Act (Cap. 275) (called in this Part the principal Act) is amended by deleting the words “the annual revision” and substituting the words “subsequent revisions”.

Amendment of section 3

3. Section 3(1) of the principal Act is amended by deleting the words “an annual revision” and substituting the words “subsequent revisions”.

Amendment of section 4

4. Section 4(1) of the principal Act is amended —

- (a) by deleting the words “shall have power in their discretion” and substituting the words “have power, without changing the meaning of any Act”;
- (b) by deleting the words “supply or alter” in paragraph (d) and substituting the words “supply, alter or omit”;
- (c) by deleting the words “rules, regulations or by-laws” in paragraph (e)(iii) and substituting the words “subsidiary legislation”;
- (d) by deleting paragraph (i) and substituting the following paragraphs:

- “(i) to change the order of sections or other provisions of an Act, and to number or renumber the sections or other provisions of an Act;
- (ia) to make the following editorial changes to bring an Act in line, or more closely in line, with current legislative drafting practice:
 - (i) changes to spelling, punctuation, grammar or syntax, or the use of conjunctives and disjunctives;
 - (ii) changes to the way of referring to or expressing a number, year, date, time, amount of money or of other things, penalty, quantity, measurement or other matter, idea or concept;
 - (iii) changes to language that indicates or could be taken to indicate gender;”;
- (e) by deleting the words “not affecting the meaning of any Act” in paragraph (l); and
- (f) by inserting, immediately after the word “correct” in paragraph (n), the words “or update”.

Amendment of section 8

5. Section 8 of the principal Act is amended —

- (a) by deleting paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and substituting the following paragraph:
 - “(b) all Acts wholly or substantially in force on 31 December 2020, and any other Acts coming wholly or substantially into force after that date that the Commissioners think fit to include;”;
- (b) by deleting the words “into so many Titles, Chapters and Parts” in subsection (2);

- (c) by deleting subsection (3) and substituting the following subsection:

“(3) The Acts contained in the revised edition of Acts may be arranged alphabetically or in any other way the Commissioners think fit, regardless of their date of enactment.”; and

- (d) by inserting, immediately after the words “in the revised edition of Acts” in subsection (4), the words “the Chapter number (if any) and”.

Amendment of section 9

6. Section 9(1) of the principal Act is amended —

- (a) by deleting sub-paragraph (ii) of paragraph (a) and substituting the following sub-paragraph:

“(ii) “2020 Revised Edition”; and”; and

- (b) by deleting the words “1985 Ed.” in paragraph (b) and substituting the words “2020 Ed.”.

Amendment of section 10

7. Section 10 of the principal Act is amended —

- (a) by deleting the words “As soon as practicable after 1st January of the year in which the revised edition of Acts comes into force and thereafter after 1st January of each succeeding year, the Commissioners shall, subject to this section and with the intent that the revised edition of Acts shall be annually revised” in subsection (1) and substituting the words “The Commissioners may, from time to time after the revised edition of Acts comes into force”;

- (b) by deleting the words “which has been amended during the period of 12 months ending on the preceding 31st December (referred to in this section as the relevant period)” in subsection (1)(a) and substituting the words “that they consider has been extensively amended”;

- (c) by deleting the words “any new Act enacted during the relevant period, other than Acts” in subsection (1)(b) and substituting the words “a revised edition of any new Act enacted, other than an Act”;
- (d) by deleting the words “which has been amended during the relevant period” in subsection (1)(c) and substituting the words “that they consider has been extensively amended”;
- (e) by deleting the words “during the relevant period” in subsections (1)(d) and (2);
- (f) by deleting subsections (3), (3A), (4), (5), (6) and (7) and substituting the following subsection:
 - “(3) A publication under subsection (1) or (2) may —
 - (a) be in the form of a booklet or in a loose-leaf form; and
 - (b) include any notes, indexes, instructions or other information that the Commissioners consider useful.”; and
- (g) by deleting the word “Annual” in the section heading and substituting the word “Subsequent”.

Amendment of section 11

8. Section 11(2) of the principal Act is amended by deleting the words “1985 Edition” and substituting the words “2020 Revised Edition”.

Amendment of section 17

9. Section 17(6) of the principal Act is amended by deleting the words “to (7)”.

Miscellaneous amendments

10. The principal Act is amended by deleting the word “annual” wherever it appears in sections 14, 20(1) and 24 and substituting in each case the word “subsequent”.