



THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY ACT 1974

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Termination of Pregnancy Act 1974

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An Act relating to termination of pregnancy by authorised medical practitioners and for matters connected therewith.

[27 December 1974]

Short title

1. This Act is the Termination of Pregnancy Act 1974.

Interpretation

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —
“approved institution” means any institution, hospital, maternity home, clinic or other place for the time being approved by the Minister for the purposes of this Act;

“authorised medical practitioner” means any medical practitioner who is authorised under any regulations made under this Act to carry out treatment to terminate pregnancy;

“law relating to abortion” means sections 312, 313, 314, and 315 of the Penal Code 1871;

“medical practitioner” means any person registered under the Medical Registration Act 1997.

[26/2001]

Medical termination of pregnancy

3.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, a person shall not be guilty of an offence under the law relating to abortion when a pregnancy is terminated by an authorised medical practitioner acting on the request of a pregnant woman and with her written consent.

(2) Except as provided by section 10, every treatment to terminate pregnancy must be carried out by an authorised medical practitioner in an approved institution.

[26/2001]

(3) No treatment to terminate pregnancy may be carried out by an authorised medical practitioner unless the pregnant woman —

- (a) is a citizen of Singapore or is the wife of a citizen of Singapore;
- (b) is the holder, or is the wife of a holder, of a work pass issued under the Employment of Foreign Manpower Act 1990; or
- (c) has been resident in Singapore for a period of at least 4 months immediately preceding the date on which the treatment is to be carried out,

but this subsection does not apply to any treatment to terminate pregnancy which is immediately necessary to save the life of the pregnant woman.

[30/2007]

(4) Any person who contravenes or fails to comply with this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$3,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years or to both.

Treatment to terminate pregnancy not to be carried out if pregnancy is of more than a certain duration unless in special circumstances

4.—(1) No treatment to terminate pregnancy may be carried out —

- (a) if the pregnancy is of more than 24 weeks' duration, unless the treatment is immediately necessary to save the life or to prevent grave permanent injury to the physical or mental health of the pregnant woman; or
- (b) if the pregnancy is of more than 16 weeks' duration but less than 24 weeks' duration, unless the treatment is carried out by an authorised medical practitioner who —
 - (i) is in possession of the prescribed surgical or obstetric qualifications; or
 - (ii) has acquired special skill in such treatment either in practice or by virtue of holding an appointment in an approved institution over the prescribed period.

[26/2001]

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the duration of the pregnancy is calculated from the first day of the last normal menstruation of the pregnant woman to the end of the 24th week or to the end of any week between the 16th and the 24th week (as the case may be) or the duration of the pregnancy may be ascertained by clinical examination.

Coercion or intimidation

5. Any person who, by means of coercion or intimidation, compels or induces a pregnant woman against her will to undergo treatment to terminate pregnancy shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$3,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years or to both.