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The following Act was passed by Parliament on 3 April 2017 and assented to by the President on 2 May 2017:—

REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

No. 23 of 2017.

I assent.

TONY TAN KENG YAM,
President.
2 May 2017.



An Act to amend the Public Order Act (Chapter 257A of the 2012 Revised Edition).

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 Public Order (Amendment) Act 2017 and comes into operation on a date that the Minister appoints by notification in the *Gazette*.

Amendment of section 2

2. Section 2(1) of the Public Order Act (called in this Act the principal Act) is amended —

(a) by deleting the definition of “declaration” and substituting the following definitions:

“ “declaration” means a declaration made by —

(a) the Commissioner under section 21;
or

(b) the Minister under section 21 read with section 21A,

as the case may be;

“enhanced security special event” means a special event that is the subject of a declaration made by the Minister;”;

(b) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “event”, the following definition:

“ “event organiser”, for an event, means a person who is responsible (whether fully or substantially) for the organisation and holding of the event and the receipt of revenue from the event (if any);”;

(c) by deleting the words “under section 21” in the definition of “special event” and substituting the words “by the Commissioner or the Minister (as the case may be)”; and

(d) by deleting the words “under section 21 of the event” in the definition of “special event area” and substituting the words “by the Commissioner or the Minister (as the case may be) for the event”.

New section 6A

3. The principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after section 6, the following section:

“Advance notice of events having prescribed crowd size

6A.—(1) Without affecting section 6, special notice of intention to organise an event (whether or not comprising or involving an assembly or a procession) must be given to the Commissioner in the prescribed manner, with the prescribed information, by any event organiser for the event if the event organiser reasonably expects more than a prescribed number of individuals to participate in or to attend the event at any time during the holding of the event.

(2) Unless the Commissioner accepts shorter notice under subsection (3), special notice under this section must be given not less than the prescribed period —

(a) before the proposed date of the event; or

(b) in the case where the event is to take place during a proposed period, before the beginning of that proposed period.

(3) The Commissioner may, and must in any case where the Commissioner is reasonably satisfied that earlier notice could not have been given, accept shorter notice than is as mentioned in subsection (2).

(4) For the purposes of subsection (1), the Minister may prescribe different numbers of individuals for different classes of events.

(5) An event organiser who fails to comply with subsection (1) or (2) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$20,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both.”.

Amendment of section 7

4. Section 7 of the principal Act is amended —

(a) by deleting the word “or” at the end of subsection (2)(f);

(b) by deleting the full-stop at the end of paragraph (g) of subsection (2) and substituting the word “; or”, and by inserting immediately thereafter the following paragraph:

“(h) be directed towards a political end and be organised by, or involve the participation of, any of the following persons:

- (i) an entity that is not a Singapore entity;
- (ii) an individual who is not a citizen of Singapore.”; and

(c) by inserting, immediately after subsection (2), the following subsection:

“(3) In this section —

“directed towards a political end” means —

- (a) promoting the interests of a political party or other group of persons organised, in Singapore or elsewhere, for political objects;
- (b) influencing, or seeking to influence, the outcome of elections or referendums, whether in Singapore or elsewhere;
- (c) influencing, or seeking to influence, the policies or decisions of national or regional governments, whether in Singapore or elsewhere;
- (d) influencing, or seeking to influence, the policies or decisions of persons on whom public functions are conferred by or under the law of Singapore or of a country or territory outside Singapore;

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- (e) influencing, or seeking to influence, the policies or decisions of persons on whom functions are conferred by or under international agreements;
 - (f) influencing, or seeking to influence, public opinion on a matter which, in Singapore or elsewhere, is a matter of public controversy;
 - (g) bringing about, or seeking to bring about, changes of the law in the whole or a part of Singapore or elsewhere, or otherwise influencing, or seeking to influence, the legislative process in Singapore or elsewhere; or
 - (h) promoting or opposing political views, or public conduct relating to activities that have become the subject of a political debate, in Singapore or elsewhere;

“Singapore entity” means a Singapore-controlled corporation, a Singapore-controlled partnership or a Singapore-controlled unincorporated association;

“Singapore-controlled corporation” means a body corporate that —

- (a) is incorporated under any written law in Singapore;
- (b) has a management body (called an executive, a board of directors or otherwise), the majority of whose members (called directors, partners or otherwise) are citizens of Singapore; and
- (c) has a majority of members who are citizens of Singapore or Singapore