

## REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

# GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

## **ACTS SUPPLEMENT**

Published by Authority

NO. 31] FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26 [2003

First published in the Government Gazette, Electronic Edition, on 26th December 2003 at 5:00 pm.

The following Act was passed by Parliament on 11th November 2003 and assented to by the President on 28th November 2003:—

## **CONSUMER PROTECTION (FAIR TRADING) ACT 2003**

(No. 27 of 2003)

#### ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

#### Section

- 1. Short title and commencement
- 2. Interpretation
- 3. Application of Act
- 4. Meaning of unfair practice
- 5. Circumstances surrounding unfair practice
- 6. Consumer's right to sue for unfair practice
- 7. Jurisdiction and powers of courts
- 8. Voluntary compliance agreement
- 9. Declaration or injunction
- 10. Injunction Proposals Review Panel
- 11. Right to cancel certain contracts within cancellation period

#### Section

- 12. Limitation period
- 13. No contracting out
- 14. Rights transferred
- 15. Preservation of other rights or remedies
- 16. Exemption from liability for publishers
- 17. Parol evidence rule abolished
- 18. Interpretation of documents
- 19. Amendment of Schedules
- 20. Regulations

First Schedule — Excluded Transactions Second Schedule — Specific Unfair Practices

Third Schedule — Constitution and Proceedings of

Injunction Proposals Review Panel

Fourth Schedule — Modifications to Provisions of Limitation

Act

## REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

No. 27 of 2003.

I assent.

(LS)

S R NATHAN, President. 28th November 2003.

An Act to protect consumers against unfair practices and for matters connected therewith.

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 may be cited as the Consumer Protection (Fair Trading) Act 2003 and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

## Interpretation

- **2.**—(1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires
  - "Chairman" means the Chairman of the Injunction Proposals Review Panel appointed under section 10;
  - "consumer" means an individual who, otherwise than exclusively in the course of business
    - (a) receives or has the right to receive goods or services from a supplier; or
    - (b) has a legal obligation to pay a supplier for goods or services that have been or are to be supplied to another individual;
  - "consumer transaction" means
    - (a) the supply of goods or services by a supplier to a consumer as a result of a purchase, lease, gift, contest or other arrangement; or
    - (b) an agreement between a supplier and a consumer, as a result of a purchase, lease, gift, contest or other arrangement, in which the supplier is to supply goods or services to the consumer or to another consumer specified in the agreement,

but does not include any transaction specified in the First Schedule;

"flat" means a horizontal stratum of any building or part thereof, whether the stratum or part is on one or more levels or is partially or wholly below the surface of the ground;

## "goods" means —

(a) any personal property, whether tangible or intangible, and includes —

- (i) chattels that are attached or intended to be attached to real property on or after delivery; and
- (ii) credit, including credit extended solely on the security of land;
- (b) any residential property; or
- (c) a voucher;
- "hire-purchase agreement" has the same meaning as in the Hire-Purchase Act (Cap.125);
- "material fact" means any information that a supplier knows or ought reasonably to know would affect the decision of a consumer to enter into a consumer transaction;
- "Panel" means the Injunction Proposals Review Panel appointed under section 10;
- "residential property" means any house, flat or other premises which is permitted to be used pursuant to any written law as a dwelling-house and any such house, flat or other premises which is in the course of being constructed;

### "services" includes —

- (a) a service offered or provided that involves the addition to or maintenance, repair or alteration of goods or any residential property;
- (b) a membership in any club or organisation if the club or organisation is a business formed to make a profit for its owners;
- (c) the right to use time share accommodation under a time share contract;
- "Small Claims Tribunal" means a Small Claims Tribunal constituted under section 4 of the Subordinate Courts Act (Cap. 321);
- "specified body" means any person or body appointed under section 8(10);