

**Infectious Diseases (Amendment) Act 2003
(No. 5 of 2003)**

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The following Act was passed by Parliament on 21st March 2003 and assented to by the President on 27th March 2003:—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (AMENDMENT) ACT 2003

(No. 5 of 2003)

I assent.

S R NATHAN,
President.
27th March 2003.

Date of Commencement: 1st April 2003

An Act to amend the Infectious Diseases Act (Chapter 137 of the 1999 Revised Edition) and to make a consequential amendment to the National Environment Agency Act 2002 (Act 4 of 2002).

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 Infectious Diseases (Amendment) Act 2003 and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

Amendment of section 2

2. Section 2 of the Infectious Diseases Act (referred to in this Act as the principal Act) is amended —

- (a) by inserting, immediately before the definition of “AIDS”, the following definition:

“ “Agency” means the National Environment Agency established under the National Environment Agency Act 2002 (Act 4 of 2002);”;

- (b) by deleting the words “medical practitioner” in the definition of “Health Officer” and substituting the word “person”;
- (c) by deleting the definition of “infectious disease” and substituting the following definition:

“ “infectious disease” means —

- (a) any of the diseases specified in the First Schedule; and
 - (b) for the purposes of sections 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 47, 55 and 72 (1)(g), includes any other disease —
 - (i) that is caused or is suspected to be caused by a micro-organism or any agent of disease;
 - (ii) that is capable or is suspected to be capable of transmission by any means to human beings; and
 - (iii) that, the Director has reason to believe, if left uninvestigated or unchecked, is likely to result in an epidemic of the disease;”;
- (d) by deleting the definition of “Minister” and substituting the following definition:

“ “Minister” means —

- (a) in relation to sections 3(1), 7 (1), 19 (2), 21 (3), 25 (1)(k), 26, 47, 52, 54 and 58 (1), the Minister charged with the responsibility for health; and
 - (b) in relation to section 3(2), the Minister charged with the responsibility for the environment”;
- (e) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “premises”, the following definition:

““public place” means any place or premises to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission, and includes any place or premises used by the public or a section of the public for educational or recreational purposes or for assemblage;”.

Amendment of section 3

3. Section 3 of the principal Act is amended by deleting subsections (1) and (2) and substituting the following subsections:

“(1) Except as otherwise provided by this Act, the Director shall, subject to any general or special directions of the Minister, be responsible for the administration of Parts III and V.

(2) Except as otherwise provided by this Act, the Director-General shall, subject to any general or special directions of the Minister, be responsible for the administration of Part IV.”.

Amendment of section 5

4. Section 5 of the principal Act is amended by deleting the words “The Minister” and substituting the words “The appropriate Minister”.

Amendment of section 6

5. Section 6 of the principal Act is amended by deleting the words “forthwith give notice in the prescribed form to the Director” in subsections (1), (2) and (3) and substituting in each case the words “notify the Director within the prescribed time and in such form or manner as the Director may require”.

Amendment of section 8

6. Section 8 of the principal Act is amended by deleting subsection (3) and substituting the following subsection:

“(3) If any person fails to comply with the requirements of the Director under this section —

- (a) that person shall be guilty of an offence; and
- (b) the Director may order the removal of that person to a hospital or place where the person may be detained until he is free from infection.”.