

# **Nurses and Midwives (Amendment) Bill**

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**Bill No: 6/2005**

***Read the first time: 10th March 2005***

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### **Nurses and Midwives (Amendment) Bill**

**Bill No. 6/2005**

*Read the first time on 10th March 2005.*

An Act to amend the Nurses and Midwives Act (Chapter 209 of the 2000 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 may be cited as the Nurses and Midwives (Amendment) Act 2005 and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

### **Amendment of long title**

2. The long title to the Nurses and Midwives Act (referred to in this Act as the principal Act) is amended by deleting the words “and the registration of midwives” and substituting the words “, the registration of midwives and the certification of Advanced Practice Nurses”.

### **Amendment of section 2**

3. Section 2 of the principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after the definition of “accredited”, the following definition:

“ “Advanced Practice Nurse” means a registered nurse who is certified as an Advanced Practice Nurse under section 32;”.

### **Amendment of section 3**

4. Section 3(2) of the principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after the words “Director of Medical Services” in paragraph (a), the words “or his representative”.

### **Amendment of section 8**

5. Section 8 of the principal Act is amended —

(a) by inserting, immediately after paragraph (a), the following paragraph:

“(aa) to approve or reject applications for certification of Advanced Practice Nurses;”;

(b) by inserting, immediately after the word “enrolment” in paragraph (c)(i), the words “of nurses, registration of midwives and certification of Advanced Practice Nurses”; and

(c) by deleting the words “and registered midwives” in paragraphs (d), (e) and (f) and substituting in each case the words “, registered midwives and Advanced Practice Nurses”.

### **Amendment of section 13**

6. Section 13 of the principal Act is amended —

(a) by deleting subsection (4); and

(b) by inserting, immediately after subsection (5), the following subsection:

“(6) The Registrar may disclose, in accordance with any prescribed conditions, any information in the Register or Roll to any prescribed person.”.

## **Amendment of section 18**

7. Section 18 of the principal Act is amended —

(a) by deleting the words “or a registered midwife” in subsections (1) and (5) and substituting in each case the words “, a registered midwife or an Advanced Practice Nurse”;

(b) by inserting, immediately after subsection (5), the following subsection:

“(5A) The Board may —

(a) refuse to grant a practising certificate to a registered nurse, an enrolled nurse, a registered midwife or an Advanced Practice Nurse; or

(b) refuse to renew the practising certificate of a registered nurse, an enrolled nurse, a registered midwife or an Advanced Practice Nurse,

if the registered nurse, enrolled nurse, registered midwife or Advanced Practice Nurse, as the case may be, fails to comply with any prescribed condition.”; and

(c) by deleting subsection (6) and substituting the following subsections:

“(6) Where —

(a) a registered nurse (including an Advanced Practice Nurse), an enrolled nurse or a registered midwife has had his registration or enrolment cancelled or suspended on any of the grounds specified in section 19(1)(a) to (f); or

(b) an Advanced Practice Nurse has had his certification cancelled or suspended under section 19(2A),

he shall surrender his practising certificate to the Board within 14 days of such cancellation or suspension and, in the case of such cancellation, his practising certificate shall be cancelled.

(6A) Where the practising certificate of an Advanced Practice Nurse has been cancelled in accordance with subsection (6)(b), the Board may issue him a practising certificate as a registered nurse in lieu thereof.”.

## **Amendment of section 19**

8. Section 19 of the principal Act is amended —

- (a) by deleting subsections (1) and (2) and substituting the following subsections:

“(1) The Board may exercise any one or more of the powers in subsection (2) and, where applicable, subsection (2A), if the Board is satisfied that a registered nurse, an enrolled nurse, a registered midwife or an Advanced Practice Nurse —

- (a) has obtained his registration as a registered nurse or registered midwife, enrolment as an enrolled nurse or certification as an Advanced Practice Nurse fraudulently or by a materially incorrect statement;
- (b) has contravened section 13(3) or any condition imposed on him under subsection (2)(c) or (7) or section 17(2), or to which he is subject by virtue of section 46(4);
- (c) has had his registration or enrolment as a nurse, registration as a midwife or certification as an Advanced Practice Nurse, in a territory outside Singapore suspended or cancelled;
- (d) has been convicted of an offence in Singapore or elsewhere which in the opinion of the Board renders him unfit to remain on the Register or the Roll or to practise as an Advanced Practice Nurse;
- (e) has been guilty of any misconduct, or negligence, which in the opinion of the Board renders him unfit to remain on the Register or the Roll or to practise as an Advanced Practice Nurse;
- (f) is unable to perform satisfactorily the functions of a registered nurse, an enrolled nurse, a registered midwife or an Advanced Practice Nurse because of a mental or physical disability;
- (g) has not renewed his practising certificate for a continuous period of not less than the prescribed period; or
- (h) is deceased.

(2) The powers referred to in subsection (1) are as follows:

- (a) cancel the registration of a registered nurse (including an Advanced Practice Nurse) or registered midwife or the enrolment of an enrolled nurse;