

Singapore Armed Forces (Amendment) Bill

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Bill No: 1/1994

Read the first time: 13th January 1994

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Explanatory Statement

Expenditure of Public Money

Singapore Armed Forces (Amendment) Bill

Bill No. 1/1994

Read the first time on 13th January 1994.

An Act to amend the Singapore Armed Forces Act (Chapter 295 of the 1985 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.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Singapore Armed Forces (Amendment) Act 1994 and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

(2) The Minister may appoint different dates for the coming into operation of the different provisions of this Act.

Amendment of section 2

2. Section 2 of the Singapore Armed Forces Act (referred to in this Act as the principal Act) is amended —

- (a) by inserting, immediately after the words “Part IV” in the last line of the definition of “disciplinary officer” in subsection (1), the words “and includes the Chief of Defence Force”;
- (b) by deleting the full-stop at the end of the definition of “volunteer” in subsection (1) and substituting a semi-colon, and by inserting immediately thereafter the following definition:

“warrant officer” means a person appointed by the Armed Forces Council or the proper authority to hold the rank of warrant officer in the Singapore Armed Forces.”; and

- (c) by deleting paragraph (e) of subsection (2) and substituting the following paragraph:

“(e) all references to “a soldier, enlisted personnel, sailor, seaman, rating or airman” shall be construed as references to a serviceman under this Act.”.

New section 10B

3. The principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after section 10A, the following section:

“Appointment of warrant officers

10B.—(1) Warrant officers of the Singapore Armed Forces shall be appointed by the Armed Forces Council or by the proper authority which may, without assigning any reason, cancel any such appointment.

(2) An appointment made under subsection (1) shall be in the prescribed form.

(3) Warrant officers appointed under subsection (1) shall be deemed to be warrant officers of the Singapore Armed Forces from the date specified in their appointments.

(4) Warrant officers may from time to time be promoted or advanced in rank by the proper authority.

(5) Any warrant officer who has been appointed by the proper authority to hold the rank of warrant officer and who has held that rank immediately before 1st July 1992 shall for all purposes be deemed to have been appointed as a warrant officer.

(6) Every warrant officer appointed before 1st July 1992 shall be deemed to be appointed under subsection (1).”

Amendment of section 39

4. Section 39 of the principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after the words “Every officer” in the first line, the words “or warrant officer”.

Amendment of section 60

5. Section 60 of the principal Act is amended —

(a) by inserting, immediately after the words “an officer” in the second line of the definition of “junior disciplinary officer”, the words “or a warrant officer”;

(b) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “reversion in rank”, the following definition:

“ “Senior Disciplinary Committee” means a Senior Disciplinary Committee appointed under section 72;” and

(c) by deleting the definition of “a soldier below the rank of warrant officer”.

Amendment of section 62

6. Section 62 of the principal Act is amended —

(a) by inserting, immediately after subsection (1), the following subsection:

“(1A) If the accused is an officer of the rank of lieutenant-colonel, the charge shall, within such time as may be specified in regulations made under this Act, be brought before the Chief of Defence Force.”; and

(b) by inserting, immediately after the words “A disciplinary officer” in the first line of subsection (5), the words “other than the Chief of Defence Force”.

New section 65A

7. The principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after section 65, the following section:

“Powers of Chief of Defence Force when dealing with charge

65A. The Chief of Defence Force when dealing with a charge brought before him under section 62(1A) may —

- (a) dismiss the charge if he is of the opinion that it ought not to be proceeded with;
- (b) try the accused summarily; or
- (c) if he is of the opinion that the charge should not be dealt with by him, refer the charge to the person appointed under section 82(5)(a).”.

Amendment of section 67

8. Section 67 of the principal Act is amended —

(a) by inserting, immediately after the words “a superior commander” in the first line, the words “or the Chief of Defence Force”; and

(b) by deleting paragraph (b) and substituting the following paragraph:

“(b) with the approval of the Armed Forces Council, direct that the charge be tried by —

- (i) in the case of a charge referred to him by a superior commander, the superior commander, the senior disciplinary officer