

Medical Endowment Scheme Bill

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Bill No: 40/1992

Read the first time: 16th November 1992

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Medical Endowment Scheme Bill

Bill No. 40/1992

Read the first time on 16th November 1992.

An Act to establish a medical endowment scheme and for matters connected therewith.

Be it enacted by the President with the advice and consent of the Parliament of Singapore, as follows:

PART I

PRELIMINARY

Short title and commencement

1. This Act may be cited as the Medical Endowment Scheme Act 1992 and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

Interpretation

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —

“approved hospital” means any hospital or any medical institution approved by the Minister under section 10;

“Council” means the Advisory Council established under section 8;

“eligible patient” means a person who is eligible to make an application under section 13;

“Hospital Medifund Account” means the account of an approved hospital referred to in section 11;

“Hospital Medifund committee” means the committee of an approved hospital appointed under section 12;

“Medifund” means the Medical Endowment Fund established under section 3(1).

PART II

MEDICAL ENDOWMENT SCHEME

Establishment of Medical Endowment Fund

3.—(1) For the purposes of this Act, there shall be established a fund to be called the Medical Endowment Fund into which shall be paid all capital money provided by Parliament pursuant to this Act and all income of that Fund and out of which shall be met all payments authorised to be paid under this Act.

(2) The Minister shall be responsible for the administration of the Medifund and all moneys belonging to that Fund may be deposited in any bank and invested in any investment authorised under the Financial Procedure Act [Cap. 109].

(3) The Medifund shall be deemed to be a Government fund for the purposes of any written law.

Capital money of Medifund

4.—(1) Upon the commencement of this Act, the Government shall pay into the Medifund as capital money such sum as the Minister for Finance may determine out of moneys to be provided by Parliament.

(2) For the purposes of this Act, the Minister for Finance may from time to time pay into the Medifund such sums of capital money as he may determine out of moneys to be provided by Parliament.

(3) The capital money of the Medifund shall not be used for any purposes other than for investment.

(4) Where at any time there is a permanent diminution of the capital money of the Medifund, the Minister shall, before paying out the income of that Fund, make good such diminution from the income of that Fund.

Application of income of Medifund

5.—(1) The income of the Medifund may be paid out and expended for all or any of the following purposes:

- (a) for the provision of grants to approved hospitals to be applied for the purpose of defraying in whole or in part the hospital charges, fees and other expenses incurred by patients approved by a Hospital Medifund committee and who are unable to pay such charges, fees or other expenses; and
- (b) for such other purposes as are authorised under this Act or as may be prescribed.

(2) For the purpose of providing income to the Medifund for the year 1993, the Minister for Finance shall pay to that Fund such sum of money as is adequate for that purpose out of moneys to be provided by Parliament and such sum of money shall not be regarded as forming any part of the capital money of the Medifund.

Mode of payment out of Medifund

6. No payment shall be made out of the Medifund unless such payment is authorised by the Minister.

Conditions on payment of grants

7.—(1) The Minister may, in authorising payment for any purpose under section 5 to any approved hospital or other person, impose such terms and conditions as he may think fit.

(2) The Minister may require any approved hospital or other person which fails to comply with such terms or conditions to repay into the Medifund any moneys paid under section 5.

Advisory Council

8.—(1) For the purpose of advising the Minister as to the application of the income of the Medifund, there shall be established an Advisory Council.

(2) The Council shall consist of not less than 5 and not more than 9 members to be appointed by the Minister.

(3) The Minister shall appoint one of the members as chairman.

(4) The Schedule shall have effect with respect to the Council.

Functions of Council and directions by Minister

9.—(1) The Council shall from time to time make recommendations to the Minister on all matters relating to the application of the income of the Medifund.