

Medical Registration (Amendment) Bill

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Bill No: 17/1971

Read the first time: 19th October 1971

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Medical Registration (Amendment) Bill

Bill No. 17/1971

Read the first time on 19th October 1971.

An Act to amend the Medical Registration Act (Chapter 218 of the 1970 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 Medical Registration (Amendment) Act, 1971, 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 Medical Registration Act (hereinafter in this Act referred to as “the principal Act”) is hereby amended by inserting immediately after the words “University of Singapore” appearing at the end of the definition of “Singapore diploma” the expression “or of the University of Malaya (as it existed prior to the 1st day of January 1962)”.

Amendment of section 4

3. Section 4 of the principal Act is hereby amended —

(a) by deleting subsection (1) thereof and substituting therefor the following: —

“(1) The Medical Council shall consist of —

(a) the Director of Medical Services;

(b) one medical officer in the public service to be

- appointed by the President;
 - (c) two registered medical practitioners to be appointed by the President on the nomination of the Council of the University of Singapore;
 - (d) six registered medical practitioners resident in Singapore to be elected by the registered medical practitioners of Singapore; and
 - (e) three registered medical practitioners resident in Singapore to be appointed by the Minister.”;
- (b) by deleting the expression “(c), (d), (e) and (f)” appearing in subsection (2) thereof and substituting therefor the expression “(b), (c), (d) and (e)”;
 - (c) by deleting subsection (3) thereof; and
 - (d) by deleting the expression “(g)” appearing in subsection (4) thereof and substituting therefor the expression “(d)”.

Repeal and re-enactment of section 9

4. Section 9 of the principal Act is hereby repealed and the following substituted therefor: —

“Persons entitled to registration

9.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the following persons shall be entitled to be registered under this Act: —

- (a) any person who holds a Singapore diploma;
- (b) any person holding any other degree, diploma or licence in medicine and surgery which was granted by any university, corporation, college or other body, outside Singapore, included in the Schedule to this Act but subject to the limitation appearing, where applicable, in column three thereof;
- (c) any person holding any other degree, diploma or licence granted by any university, corporation, college or other body outside Singapore which is not included in the Schedule to this Act whom the Minister may, after consulting the Medical Council, by order declare to be entitled to be registered under this Act, subject to such conditions and restrictions, as may be prescribed in such order.

(2) Before advising the Minister under paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of this section the Medical Council may satisfy itself, by such evidence as it may require,

that the person holds a degree, diploma or licence that is not lower in standard than that required of a person who holds a Singapore diploma and, if the Medical Council is not so satisfied, it may require that person to undergo and to pass an examination conducted or arranged by the Medical Council, or by such other person or persons as it may for this purpose appoint.

(3) Any person who is in Singapore for the purposes of teaching, research or postgraduate study in medicine or surgery under such training scheme as may be approved by the Minister in any institution recognised, from time to time, by the Medical Council for that purpose or any person who possesses medical or surgical knowledge, experience and skill which the Medical Council considers to be of international standing or are such as to have special value to the people of Singapore, or who, not having any of the qualifications mentioned in subsection (1) of this section, possesses other qualifications which, in the opinion of the Medical Council are adequate for purposes of registration under this Act, may have his name entered in the register for so long as he continues to engage himself exclusively in teaching or in research or in postgraduate study in medicine or surgery, as the case may be, under an approved training scheme or in such medical or surgical capacity as the Medical Council may specify:

Provided that registration under this subsection shall be for a period not longer than two years which may be renewed, at the discretion of the Medical Council, for a further period or periods each not exceeding one year.

(4) The entitlement of any person to be registered under subsection (3) of this section may be subject to such conditions and restrictions as the Medical Council may impose.

(5) The Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, after consulting the Medical Council, vary or amend the Schedule to this Act to include therein any medical qualification granted by any university, corporation, college or other body which he has decided should be recognised as entitling the holder to be registered under this Act.”.

Amendment of section 11

5. Section 11 of the principal Act is hereby amended —

- (a) by inserting immediately after the word “prescribed” appearing at the end of subsection (1) thereof the expression “or in such other capacity as the university or other corporation empowered to grant a Singapore diploma may approve (hereinafter referred to as “approved capacity”) and for such period as may be prescribed”;

- (b) by inserting immediately after the word “surgery” appearing in the last line of paragraph (a) of subsection (2) thereof the words “and for such period or minimum period as may be prescribed in an approved capacity”;
- (c) by inserting immediately after the word “midwifery” appearing in the third line of subsection (3) thereof the words “or in such other approved capacity”;
- (d) by inserting immediately after the word “both” appearing in the fourth line of subsection (4) thereof the words “or in an approved capacity”;
- (e) by inserting immediately after the word “midwifery” appearing in the fifth line of subsection (4) thereof the words “or in an approved capacity”; and
- (f) by inserting immediately after subsection (7) thereof the following new subsection: —

“(8) Nothing in this section shall preclude a university, corporation, college or other body empowered to grant a Singapore diploma from approving for the purposes of this section a hospital or institution in a foreign country (hereinafter referred to as “approved foreign institution”) and granting a certificate for the purpose of paragraph (a) of section 10 of this Act to the holder of a Singapore diploma provided that such holder satisfies that university, corporation, college or other body that —

- (a) he has served in that approved foreign institution in a resident medical capacity for a period that is equivalent to the period prescribed under paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of this section; and
- (b) he has performed and completed such service to the satisfaction of the competent authority or authorities controlling such approved foreign institution.”.

Repeal of section 14

6. Section 14 of the principal Act is hereby repealed.

Amendment of section 16

7. Section 16 of the principal Act is hereby amended by deleting subsections (5), (6) and (7) thereof and substituting therefor the following: —

“(5) If the Medical Council is satisfied that an applicant for registration —

- (a) is not entitled to be registered;