

Customs (Amendment) Bill

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Bill No: 50/1970

Read the first time: 4th November 1970

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Explanatory Statement

Expenditure of Public Money

Customs (Amendment) Bill

Bill No. 50/1970

Read the first time on 4th November 1970.

An Act to amend the Customs Ordinance, 1960 (No. 44 of 1960).

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 Customs (Amendment) Act, 1970, and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

Repeal and re-enactment of section 2

2. Section 2 of the Customs Ordinance, 1960 (hereinafter in this Act referred to as “the Ordinance”) is hereby repealed and the following substituted therefor: —

“Extent of operation

2. This Ordinance shall not apply to —

- (a) such off-shore islands as the Minister may by notification in the *Gazette* specify, in respect of the importation, exportation, manufacture or use of petroleum; and
- (b) save as is otherwise provided for in this Ordinance or any other written law, any act or thing lawfully done or permitted to be done within a free trade zone.”.

Amendment of section 3

3. Subsection (1) of section 3 of the Ordinance is hereby amended by inserting immediately after the definition of “dutiable goods” appearing therein the following new definition: —

““excise duty” means duty on goods manufactured in Singapore;”.

Amendment of section 4

4. Section 4 of the Ordinance is hereby amended by deleting the word “President” appearing in subsections (1) and (4) thereof and substituting therefor in each case the word “Minister”.

Amendment of section 5

5. Section 5 of the Ordinance is hereby amended by deleting the word “President” appearing in the first line thereof and substituting therefor the word “Minister”.

New section 11A

6. The Ordinance is hereby amended by inserting immediately after section 11 thereof the following new section: —

“Duty on locally-grown tobacco

11A. The Minister may, by order published in the *Gazette*, prescribe the duty to be levied on tobacco grown in Singapore, and may in such order make provision for securing and collecting the said duty.”.

Amendment of section 13

7. Section 13 of the Ordinance is hereby amended by deleting the words “on any goods” appearing in paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (2) thereof.

Amendment of section 16

8. Section 16 of the Ordinance is hereby amended by deleting the words “or diesel oil as fuel or fitted with producer gas attachments” appearing at the end of subsection (1) thereof and substituting therefor the expression “, diesel oil, liquefied petroleum gas or any other gas as fuel or fitted with producer gas or other gas attachments”.

Amendment of section 23

9. Section 23 of the Ordinance is hereby amended —

- (a) by renumbering the existing section as subsection (1); and
- (b) by inserting immediately thereafter the following new subsection: —

“(2) Any certificate purporting to be signed by the Comptroller stating his decision under subsection (1) of this section shall be admitted in evidence without proof of signature for the purpose of any proceedings under this Ordinance.”.

Amendment of section 25

10. Section 25 of the Ordinance is hereby amended by deleting the word “landing” appearing in paragraph (a) of subsection (1) thereof.

Amendment of section 28

11. Section 28 of the Ordinance is hereby amended by deleting the first proviso thereto and substituting therefor the following: —

“Provided that no permit shall be required for the removal by an authority administering a free trade zone of any dutiable goods from a vessel direct into such free trade zone, if a full and correct inward manifest as required under section 33 of this Ordinance has been furnished to the proper officer of customs:”.

New section 35A

12. The Ordinance is hereby amended by inserting immediately after section 35 thereof the following new section: —

“Liability of master or agent of vessel in respect of goods unaccounted for

35A. All dutiable goods unshipped or landed in a free trade zone or approved landing place, or deposited in a transit warehouse, shall, until lawfully removed therefrom for export or entry into customs territory or until received for storage by the authority administering the free trade zone, be at the risk of the master or agent of the vessel as if they had not been unshipped, and the master or agent of such vessel shall be liable to pay the duty on such goods as are not accounted for to the satisfaction of a senior officer of customs.”.

Repeal and re-enactment of section 37

13. Section 37 of the Ordinance is hereby repealed and the following substituted therefor: —

“Goods unaccounted for to be deemed uncustomed

37. If dutiable goods, other than *bona fide* sea stores or air stores, are found by a proper officer of customs in any vessel, aircraft or train in Singapore, and such goods are not specified in the manifest of such vessel, aircraft or train, or accounted for to the satisfaction of the proper officer of customs, then such goods shall be deemed to be uncustomed goods and shall be liable to seizure, and the vessel, aircraft or train may be detained by the proper officer of customs.”.

Repeal and re-enactment of section 38

14. Section 38 of the Ordinance is hereby repealed and the following substituted therefor: —

“Missing goods deemed to have been illegally landed

38. If in any vessel, aircraft or train in Singapore the quantity of any dutiable goods entered in the manifest of such vessel, aircraft or train is found by a proper