

Revised Edition of the Laws Bill

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Bill No: 2/1966

Read the first time: 23rd February 1966

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Explanatory Statement

Expenditure of Public Money

Revised Edition of the Laws Bill

Bill No. 2/1966

Read the first time on 23rd February 1966.

An Act to make provision for the preparation and publication of a revised edition of the laws of Singapore.

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 Revised Edition of the Laws Act, 1966, and shall

come into operation on such date as the President may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

Interpretation

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

“Acts” means all Acts of Parliament and includes all Ordinances having the force of law in Singapore;

“Commissioners” means the Law Revision Commissioners appointed under section 3;

“Revised Edition of Acts” means the Revised Edition, or any volume thereof, of the Acts in force in Singapore, or assented to but not yet brought into force, on such date as may be appointed by the President by notification in the *Gazette* in relation to the Revised Edition of Acts or any volume thereof;

“Revised Edition of Subsidiary Legislation” means the Revised Edition, or any volume thereof, of orders in council, proclamations, rules, regulations, orders, notifications, by-laws and other forms of subsidiary legislation made under any Act or other lawful authority and having legislative effect, or enacted but not yet brought into force, on such date as may be appointed by the President by notification in the *Gazette* in relation to the Revised Edition of Subsidiary Legislation or any volume thereof.

Appointment of Commission

3.—(1) The President may appoint a Law Revision Commission comprising, as Law Revision Commissioners, the Attorney-General and such other persons as may be appointed by the President to prepare and publish a Revised Edition of Acts and a Revised Edition of Subsidiary Legislation.

(2) In case any of the Commissioners, appointed under the provisions of subsection (1), is unable from any causefully to discharge his Commission under this Act, the President may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint some other person to be a Commissioner or temporarily in his stead to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of a Commissioner:

Provided that in case any Commissioner is unable for any cause fully to discharge his Commission under this Act and no appointment has been made under this subsection, the remaining Commissioner or Commissioners shall have and may exercise all the powers and duties conferred by this Act upon the Commissioners.

Powers of the Commissioners

4. In the preparation of the Revised Edition of Acts, the Commissioners shall have power in their discretion —

(a) to omit —

- (i) all Acts or parts of Acts which have been repealed, expressly, specifically or by necessary implication, or which have expired or have become spent or have had their effect, and all Supply Acts and Acts or parts of Acts so far as they affect changes of titles;
- (ii) all repealing enactments contained in Acts and all tables or lists of repealed enactments, whether contained in schedules or otherwise;
- (iii) all preambles to Acts;
- (iv) all introductory words of enactment in any Act or section of an Act;
- (v) all enactments prescribing the date when an Act or part of an Act is to come into force;
- (vi) all amending Acts or parts of Acts where the amendments effected by such Acts or parts of Acts have been embodied by the Commissioners in the Act to which they relate;
- (vii) all enacting clauses; and
- (viii) any parts of an Act which can more conveniently be included as orders in council, rules, regulations, orders, notifications, by-laws or other instruments made under any Act or other lawful authority and having legislative effect:

Provided that the provisions of section 16 of the Interpretation Act, 1965 (Act of 1965), shall apply to such omissions in the same manner as if the enactments omitted had been repealed;

(b) to arrange the grouping and sequence of Acts;

(c) to add a short title to any Act and to alter the short title of any Act;

(d) to supply or alter tables of contents, marginal notes, foot notes and the headings to Parts and Chapters:

Provided that such foot notes shall not form any part of the Act in which they appear;

- (e) to adopt a convenient standard form in all Acts for —
 - (i) the interpretation section;
 - (ii) any penal section;
 - (iii) any section giving power to make rules, regulations or by-laws, whether such section already appears in any Act or is inserted by the Commissioners as a result of the exercise by them of the power conferred by sub-paragraph (viii) of paragraph (a) or any other power conferred upon them by this Act;
- (f) to consolidate into one Act any two or more Acts *in pari materia*, making such alterations as are thereby rendered in the consolidated Act, and affixing such date thereto as may seem most convenient, and to incorporate into one or more other Acts all or any of the provisions of any Act where the subject matter so incorporated relates to the same subject matter with the Act into which it is incorporated;
- (g) to divide any Act into two or more Acts and to make such amendments, including the supplying of titles or the alteration of existing titles, as are thereby rendered necessary;
- (h) to incorporate in any Act any amendment made to any schedule, form or other part by any authority under powers conferred by the Act;
- (i) to alter the order of sections of any Act, and to re-number the sections of any Act;
- (j) to alter the form of arrangement of any section of an Act by transposing words, by combining it in whole or in part with another section or other sections or by dividing it into two or more subsections;
- (k) to divide any Act, whether consolidated or not, into parts or other divisions;
- (l) to correct grammatical, typographical and similar mistakes in any Acts and to make verbal additions, omissions or alterations not affecting the meaning of any Act;
- (m) to make such formal alterations as to names, localities, departments, offices, titles and otherwise as may be necessary to bring any Act to be included in the Revised Edition of Acts or any volume thereof into