

**Slaughter-houses and Meat Processing Factories Act
(CHAPTER 307)**

Table of Contents

Long Title

1 Short title

2 Interpretation

3 Appointment of veterinary authority

4 Director may license slaughter-houses

5 Power to provide slaughter-houses

**6 Prohibition of slaughtering elsewhere than at Government or
licensed slaughter-houses**

7 Power to refuse slaughter

8 Offences as to marks and penalties

9 Special licence to slaughter elsewhere

10 Special licence where animal cannot be taken to slaughter-house

11 Licence for meat processing factory

12 Power to close meat processing factory

13 Powers of veterinary authority

14 Rules

Legislative History

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND MEAT PROCESSING FACTORIES ACT (CHAPTER 307)

(Original Enactment: Act 7 of 1965)

REVISED EDITION 1985

(30th March 1987)

An Act for the control and licensing of slaughter-houses and meat processing factories and matters incidental thereto.

[5th November 1965]

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Slaughter-houses and Meat Processing Factories Act.

Interpretation

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

“Director” has the same meaning as in the Animals and Birds Act [Cap. 7];

“meat” means the edible part of any animal or bird used as food for human beings, including bones, offals, sausages and other meat preparations of cattle, sheep, goats, swine, boars, birds and rabbits, whether fresh, chilled, frozen, pickled, salted, smoked, dried, cooked or canned;

“meat processing factory” means a place where meat is processed or is used in the production of any manufactured meat product or is so processed and used;

“veterinary authority” means the Director, the Deputy Director of Primary Production and any person appointed in writing by the Director to be a veterinary authority under section 3;

“processing” means the canning, cooking, curing, smoking, dehydrating, chilling, freezing or otherwise preparing food for commercial purposes.

Appointment of veterinary authority

3. The Director may, with the approval of the Minister, appoint any public officer, employed in the administration of this Act, to be a veterinary authority who, subject to such limitations as may be prescribed by the Director, may perform all duties imposed and exercise all powers conferred on the Director and the veterinary authority by this Act.

Director may license slaughter-houses

4.—(1) The Director may, after consultation with the Director of Medical Services, license any place as a slaughter-house. Such a licence shall be subject to such conditions as may be prescribed and such other conditions as the Director may, in his discretion, impose. The Director may, in his discretion, at any time revoke or suspend the licence.

(2) No place shall be used as a slaughter-house without a licence issued by the Director.

(3) Any person who slaughters any animal or allows any animal to be slaughtered in any slaughter-house without a valid licence, issued by the Director, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 and to a further fine not exceeding \$50 for every day during which the default continues.

Power to provide slaughter-houses

5. The Director may, if he thinks fit, provide places which may be used as Government slaughter-houses.

Prohibition of slaughtering elsewhere than at Government or licensed slaughter-houses

6.—(1) No animal intended to be used as human food shall be slaughtered at any place other than at a licensed slaughter-house or at one of the slaughter-houses provided by the Director and no person shall bring into Singapore or have in his possession or sell or expose for sale any meat of such an animal, unless the animal has been slaughtered at a licensed slaughter-house or at one of the Government slaughter-houses.

(2) Any person who slaughters any animal or brings into Singapore or has in his possession or sells or exposes for sale any meat in contravention of subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$2,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both.

(3) The occupier of any premises in which any animal is slaughtered in contravention of subsection (1) shall be deemed to have slaughtered the animal, until it is proved that it was slaughtered without his knowledge and consent.

(4) Any veterinary authority may at any time enter into, inspect and search any

premises in which he has reason to suspect that any animal is being or has been recently slaughtered in contravention of subsection (1).

(5) When provision has been made for the marking of the carcasses of animals slaughtered in Government slaughter-houses to denote that the animals have been so slaughtered, any carcase or part of a carcase which does not bear such a slaughter-house mark shall be presumed, until the contrary is proved, to have been slaughtered in contravention of subsection (1).

(6) In any case where any veterinary authority has reasonable cause to believe that an offence has been committed under this section or section 8, he may seize the meat in respect of which the offence is believed to have been committed and may sell or otherwise dispose of it as the Director may think fit and the proceeds of sale, if any, shall be disposed of in such manner as a Magistrate's Court may direct.

(7) A document purporting to be a certificate under the hand of the Director to the effect that an animal, the meat of which has been seized pursuant to subsection (6), was not slaughtered at a Government slaughter-house or a licensed slaughter-house shall be conclusive evidence of that fact.

(8) In this section "meat" includes the meat of animals slaughtered outside Singapore which is brought into Singapore in a frozen or chilled condition without a licence issued by the appropriate veterinary authority.

Power to refuse slaughter

7. The Director may refuse to allow the slaughter, at a slaughter-house provided by him, of any animal or the dressing of any carcase which is diseased or, by reason of emaciation, is in the opinion of a veterinary authority unfit for human consumption.

Offences as to marks and penalties

8. Any person who —

- (a) marks the carcase or part of the carcase of any animal which was not slaughtered at a Government slaughter-house with any mark with the intention of causing it to be believed that the animal was slaughtered at such a slaughter-house;
- (b) makes or has in his possession any dye, plate or other instrument for the purpose of its being used or knowing or having reason to believe that it is intended to be used for the purpose of counterfeiting a Government slaughter-house mark; or
- (c) sells or exposes for sale or has in his possession for sale the carcase or part of the carcase of any animal bearing a mark intended to represent a