

SINGAPORE LEGISLATION

**Digest of Acts passed between 1 March 2006 and
31 August 2006
(Correct as at 20 November 2006)**

Emily TEO
*LLB (Hons) (National University of Singapore);
State Counsel, Attorney-General's Chambers.*

Joyce CHNG
*BA (Soc Sc) (Curtin);
Legal Executive, Attorney-General's Chambers.*

Supplementary Supply (FY 2005) Act 2006**Act 12 of 2006**

Long title: An Act to provide for making supplementary provision to meet additional expenditure for the financial year 1st April 2005 to 31st March 2006.

Passed by Parliament on: 9 March 2006

Assented to by President on: 14 March 2006

Publication date: 21 March 2006

Commencement date: 21 March 2006

Summary: In accordance with Arts 148(2) and 148C(2) of the Constitution of the Republic of Singapore (1999 Rev Ed), this Act makes additional provision of a further sum of \$1,010,880,310 from the Consolidated Fund and \$235,000 from the Development Fund for the financial year 1 April 2005 to 31 March 2006 to meet expenditure in excess of the sums authorised by the Supply Act 2005 (Act 12 of 2005).

Supply Act 2006**Act 13 of 2006**

Long title: An Act to provide for the issue from the Consolidated Fund and the Development Fund of the sums necessary to meet the estimated expenditure for the financial year 1st April 2006 to 31st March 2007.

Passed by Parliament on: 9 March 2006

Assented to by President on: 16 March 2006

Publication date: 21 March 2006

Commencement date: 1 April 2006

Summary: This Act makes provision for the appropriation of moneys of —

- (a) a sum not exceeding \$31,040,325,410 from the Consolidated Fund; and
- (b) a sum not exceeding \$12,143,342,000 from the Development Fund,

for the purposes of the Heads of Expenditure to meet the estimated expenditure for the financial year 1 April 2006 to 31 March 2007.

Enlistment (Amendment) Act 2006

Act 14 of 2006

Long title: An Act to amend the Enlistment Act (Chapter 93 of the 2001 Revised Edition).

Passed by Parliament on: 3 April 2006

Assented to by President on: 12 April 2006

Publication date: 5 May 2006

Commencement dates:

- (a) Sections 1, 2 and 4(b) — 8 May 2006
- (b) Sections 3 and 4(a) — 15 August 2006

Summary: This Act amends the Enlistment Act (Cap 93, 2001 Rev Ed) for the following main purposes:

- (a) to increase the maximum fine that may be imposed by the court for the offences under ss 4(2) and 33 of the Act from \$5,000 to \$10,000;
- (b) to extend the requirement for an exit permit under s 32 of the Act to a person who is a citizen or permanent resident of Singapore and who is not less than 13 years of age but less than 16 years and six months of age (“relevant child”);
- (c) to make the contravention of s 32(1) or s 32(2) of the Act by a relevant child a separate offence from the offence under s 33 of the Act, so as to provide a lower penalty of a fine not exceeding \$2,000; and
- (d) to provide that where a relevant child contravenes s 32(1) or s 32(2) of the Act, each parent or guardian, or other person having the actual custody of the relevant child, will be guilty of an offence and will be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$2,000.

Central Provident Fund (Amendment) Act 2006**Act 15 of 2006**

Long title: An Act to amend the Central Provident Fund Act (Chapter 36 of the 2001 Revised Edition).

Passed by Parliament on: 3 April 2006

Assented to by President on: 12 April 2006

Publication date: 28 June 2006

Commencement date: 1 July 2006

Summary: This Act amends the Central Provident Fund Act (Cap 36, 2001 Rev Ed) (“the Act”) for the following main purposes:

- (a) to increase the number of members of the Central Provident Fund Board (“the Board”) and to allow the chief executive of the Board to be appointed as a member of the Board;
- (b) to facilitate the transfer of money between a member’s medisave account and the member’s ordinary account, special account and retirement account (if any);
- (c) to increase the number of grounds, and to align the grounds, on which a member may —
 - (i) withdraw the sum standing to his credit in the Central Provident Fund (“the Fund”) under s 15(2) of the Act;
 - (ii) withdraw the minimum sum or such part thereof as the Board may determine, or surrender his approved annuity, under s 15(7A) of the Act; or
 - (iii) be excused from having to deposit the minimum sum, or to use the minimum sum to purchase an approved annuity, under s 15(8) of the Act,
and to provide for the requirements which the member may have to satisfy in order to make the withdrawal or surrender, or to be excused from having to make the deposit or purchase, as the case may be;
- (d) to allow the amount in a deceased member’s medisave account to be used for the payment of expenses for medical treatment received by the member;
- (e) to restate the ambit of the prohibitions against the transfer or assignment of, and the protection against enforcement conferred on, moneys withdrawn by a member from the Fund and investments under the Central Provident Fund Investment Scheme under s 24(1), 24(2) and 24(3) of the Act; and

- (f) to clarify that where a member fails to make a nomination under s 25(1) of the Act, the amount payable out of the Fund on his death shall be disposed of in accordance with the Intestate Succession Act (Cap 146, 1985 Rev Ed) (if the member was not a Muslim at the time of his death) or with s 112 of the Administration of Muslim Law Act (Cap 3, 1999 Rev Ed) (if the member was a Muslim at the time of his death), and not in accordance with the member's will, if any.

Private Lotteries (Amendment) Act 2006

Act 16 of 2006

Long title: An Act to amend the Private Lotteries Act (Chapter 250 of the 1985 Revised Edition) and to make related amendments to the Betting and Sweepstake Duties Act (Chapter 22 of the 1999 Revised Edition) and the Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore Act (Chapter 138A of the 1993 Revised Edition).

Passed by Parliament on: 3 April 2006

Assented to by President on: 12 April 2006

Publication date: 19 April 2006

Commencement date: Not known yet

Summary: This Act seeks to amend the Private Lotteries Act (Cap 250, 1985 Rev Ed) for the following main purposes:

- (a) to provide for the appointment by the Minister for Home Affairs of a Permit Officer with the power to grant permits for the promotion or conduct of private lotteries;
- (b) to provide for the appointment by the Minister for Finance of a Commissioner of Betting Duties with the power to collect duties under the Act;
- (c) to provide that duties chargeable under the Act are to be computed against actual turnover; and
- (d) to provide for a power of composition for certain offences under the Act.

This Act also makes related amendments to the Betting and Sweepstake Duties Act (Cap 22, 1999 Rev Ed) and the Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore Act (Cap 138A, 1993 Rev Ed).

Related legislation: Betting and Sweepstake Duties Act (Cap 22, 1999 Rev Ed) and Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore Act (Cap 138A, 1993 Rev Ed).

National Research Fund Act 2006**Act 17 of 2006**

Long title: An Act to establish a National Research Fund and to provide for its proper administration, and to make consequential amendments to the Agency for Science, Technology and Research Act (Chapter 5A of the 2002 Revised Edition) and the Standards, Productivity and Innovation Board Act (Chapter 303A of the 2002 Revised Edition).

Passed by Parliament on: 3 April 2006

Assented to by President on: 12 April 2006

Publication date: 15 May 2006

Commencement date: 22 August 2006

Summary: This Act establishes a new government fund to be called the National Research Fund (“the Fund”) to facilitate the better accounting and management of public moneys for research and development activities; and provides, amongst other things —

- (a) that the source of revenue of the Fund comprises mainly of moneys appropriated from the Consolidated Fund;
- (b) that the object of the Fund is to fund research and development activities with a view to —
 - (i) encouraging the development in Singapore of innovative products, processes and services;
 - (ii) increasing investment by the public and private sectors in Singapore in research and development activities that will make Singapore more internationally competitive;
 - (iii) promoting the technological advancement of the public and private sectors through a focus on innovation; and
 - (iv) creating an environment that is conducive to increased commercialisation of new processes and product technologies;
- (c) for the establishment of the National Research Board, principally —
 - (i) to co-ordinate research and development activities undertaken or promoted by the Government, public authorities whose objects are similar to the object of the Fund, enterprises, educational institutions or other persons in Singapore;
 - (ii) to investigate and evaluate the requirement for funding any research and development activity generally or specifically; and

- (iii) to develop policies and plans for research and development activities in Singapore in the national interest;
- (d) for the establishment of the Research, Innovation and Enterprise Council —
 - (i) to provide advice and guidance to the Government in the formulation of its policies and laws on all types of research and development activities and innovation in Singapore; and
 - (ii) to lead in the promotion of all aspects of research and development activities and innovation in Singapore, by identifying and promoting activities and programmes that will make Singapore more internationally competitive and alerting the public and private sectors to any new business opportunities that arise from the exploitation of results of any research and development activities or innovation; and
- (e) that the Financial Procedure Act (Cap 109, 1992 Rev Ed) and its regulations will continue to apply to the Fund unless expressly excluded.

This Act also makes consequential amendments to the Agency for Science, Technology and Research Act (Cap 5A, 2002 Rev Ed) and the Standards, Productivity and Innovation Board Act (Cap 303A, 2002 Rev Ed).

Related legislation: Agency for Science, Technology and Research Act (Cap 5A, 2002 Rev Ed) and Standards, Productivity and Innovation Board Act (Cap 303A, 2002 Rev Ed).

Electricity (Amendment) Act 2006

Act 18 of 2006

Long title: An Act to amend the Electricity Act (Chapter 89A of the 2002 Revised Edition).

Passed by Parliament on: 3 April 2006

Assented to by President on: 12 April 2006

Publication date: 26 April 2006

Commencement date: 1 May 2006

Summary: This Act amends the Electricity Act (Cap 89A, 2002 Rev Ed) principally to enhance the regulation by the Energy Market Authority of Singapore of the transmission of electricity by —

- (a) licensing a person who transmits electricity for or on behalf of a transmission licensee; and

- (b) providing for the control of —
 - (i) the acquisition of equity interests in a transmission licensee, a transmission agent licensee, a designated entity that owns the transmission system and a designated business trust established in respect of a transmission system;
 - (ii) the acquisition of the business of a transmission licensee, a transmission agent licensee and a designated entity that owns the transmission system; and
 - (iii) the appointments of officers of a transmission licensee and a transmission agent licensee.

Moneylenders (Amendment) Act 2006

Act 19 of 2006

Long title: An Act to amend the Moneylenders Act (Chapter 188 of the 1985 Revised Edition).

Passed by Parliament on: 3 April 2006

Assented to by President on: 12 April 2006

Publication date: 20 April 2006

Commencement date: 11 August 2006

Summary: This Act amends the Moneylenders Act (Cap 188, 1985 Rev Ed) for the following main purposes:

- (a) to provide that a moneylender under the Act excludes a merchant bank which is an approved financial institution under section 28 of the Monetary Authority of Singapore Act (Cap 186, 1999 Rev Ed);
- (b) to enable the Registrar of Moneylenders (“the Registrar”) to suspend a moneylender’s licence for such period as he considers appropriate instead of revoking it, and to enable the Registrar to suspend or revoke a licence for a contravention of rules made under the Act;
- (c) to empower the Registrar or an officer authorised by him to require a moneylender to provide any information or document or to enter premises used by the moneylender to carry on business in order to inspect the premises and any document found on the premises;
- (d) to clarify that the Minister for Law may revoke an exemption granted to a person on certain grounds; and

-
- (e) to enable the Minister for Law to make rules for additional matters including the maximum amount that may be lent to a borrower or class or description of borrowers, the borrowers to whom a loan may be made and the conduct of the business of moneylending.
-