

Civil List and Pension (Amendment) Bill

Bill No. 17/2012.

Read the first time on 13th August 2012.

A BILL

intituled

An Act to amend the Civil List and Pension Act (Chapter 44 of the 2002 Revised Edition) and to make a consequential amendment to the Pension Fund Act (Chapter 224A of the 1996 Revised Edition).

Be it enacted by the President with the advice and consent of the Parliament of Singapore, as follows:

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Civil List and Pension (Amendment) Act 2012.

Amendment of long title

5 2. The long title to the Civil List and Pension Act (referred to in this Act as the principal Act) is amended by deleting the words “and pension” and substituting the words “and gratuity”.

Amendment of section 1

10 3. Section 1 of the principal Act is amended by deleting the words “and Pension” and substituting the words “and Gratuity”.

Deletion and substitution of heading to Part II

4. Part II of the principal Act is amended by deleting the Part heading and substituting the following Part heading:

“GRATUITY”.

15 Repeal of sections 8, 9 and 11

5. Sections 8, 9 and 11 of the principal Act are repealed.

Amendment of section 12

6. Section 12 of the principal Act is amended —

- (a) by deleting the words “pension or”;
- 20 (b) by deleting the words “the pension” in paragraph (a)(ii) and substituting the words “the gratuity”; and
- (c) by deleting the words “Pension or gratuity” in the section heading and substituting the word “Gratuity”.

Amendment of section 13

25 7. Section 13 of the principal Act is amended —

- (a) by deleting the words “pension or”; and
- (b) by deleting the words “Pensions and gratuities” in the section heading and substituting the word “Gratuities”.

Consequential amendment to Pension Fund Act

8. The Schedule to the Pension Fund Act (Cap. 224A) is amended by deleting the words “and Pension” in item 2 and substituting the words “and Gratuity”.

Saving

9. This Act shall not affect any pension or gratuity granted under the principal Act as in force before the commencement of this Act, and the provisions of the principal Act and the Pension Fund Act (Cap. 224A) shall continue to apply with respect to that pension or gratuity as if this Act had not been enacted.

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EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This Bill seeks to amend the Civil List and Pension Act (Cap. 44) to abolish pensions for former Presidents and his dependants.

The Bill also makes a consequential amendment to the Pension Fund Act (Cap. 224A).

Clause 1 relates to the short title.

Clause 2 amends the long title to the Act by removing the reference therein to pension.

Clause 3 changes the short title of the Act in section 1 from the Civil List and Pension Act to the Civil List and Gratuity Act.

Clause 4 amends the heading of Part II from “PENSION” to “GRATUITY”.

Clause 5 repeals sections 8 and 9. This will abolish the Parliament’s power to grant a pension to any former President. This gives effect to the recommendations in the White Paper titled “Salaries for a Capable and Committed Government” (Cmd. 1 of 2012), which the Parliament adopted on 18th January 2012.

Clause 5 also repeals section 11, thereby abolishing the Parliament’s power to grant a pension to the widow and surviving children of any President or former President upon his death. The Parliament, however, retains the power to grant a gratuity to the dependants of a President or a former President who dies, or to his legal personal representative if there are no such dependants.

Clauses 6 and 7 make consequential amendments to sections 12 and 13, respectively. All references in sections 12 and 13 to a pension are removed since only a gratuity may, in future, be granted by the Parliament to the dependants (or to

his legal personal representative if there are no such dependants) of a President or a former President who dies.

Clause 8 makes an amendment to the Schedule to the Pension Fund Act (Cap. 224A) as a consequence of the change to the short title of the Act by clause 3.

Clause 9 is a saving provision.

EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC MONEY

This Bill will not involve the Government in any extra financial expenditure.
