

Transport Sector (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill

Bill No. 12/2025.

Read the first time on 26 September 2025.

A BILL

i n t i t u l e d

An Act to amend certain Acts relating to land transport and sea transport, and to make a related amendment to the Public Utilities Act 2001.

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 is the Transport Sector (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 2025 and comes into operation on a date that the Minister appoints by notification in the *Gazette*.

PART 1

LAND TRANSPORT

Amendment of Bus Services Industry Act 2015

2. In the Bus Services Industry Act 2015 —

(a) in the long title, after “in Singapore,”, insert “to regulate the conduct of individuals on buses, at bus depots and at bus interchanges in Singapore,”;

(b) in section 2, replace the definition of “bus depot” with —

““bus depot” means any premises with purpose-built facilities for the parking, maintenance or refuelling of buses, or the charging of batteries of buses (when the battery is attached to the bus), by bus operators holding Class 1 bus service licences, but does not include any such premises if located within any bus interchange;”;

(c) in section 2, replace the definition of “bus interchange” with —

““bus interchange” means a terminal or station with purpose-built facilities —

(a) for the commencement or termination of one or more bus services; and

(b) that may also provide for the boarding or alighting of passengers;”;

(d) in section 2, after the definition of “bus operator”, insert —

““bus passenger”, in relation to a bus, means an individual carried on board the bus, and includes —

- (a) an individual boarding or intending to board the bus for the purpose of travelling on the bus as a passenger; and
- (b) an individual boarding or intending to board the bus, or travelling on the bus, for the purpose of engaging in any work on the bus;”;
- (e) in section 2, in the definition of “operate”, in paragraph (b), after sub-paragraph (iii), insert —
 - “(iv) merely charging the battery of a bus, or supplying electricity for the charging of batteries of buses, parked at a bus depot or bus interchange;”;
- (f) in section 3, after paragraph (aa), insert —
 - “(ab) to regulate the conduct of bus passengers of buses, and members of the public at bus depots and bus interchanges, in Singapore;”;
- (g) in section 5(1), after “bus interchanges,”, insert “the conduct of bus passengers of buses, and members of the public at bus depots and bus interchanges, in Singapore,”;
- (h) in section 5(2)(a), after “seamless”, insert “, safe, secure”;
- (i) after Part 7, insert —

“PART 7A

CONDUCT OF INDIVIDUALS ON BUSES AND
AT BUS DEPOTS AND BUS INTERCHANGES

*Division 1 — Regulation of conduct of individuals on
buses and at bus depots and bus interchanges*

**Screening, etc., bus passengers and entrants to
bus interchanges**

42AA.—(1) It is a condition of entry to any bus or
bus interchange that a bus passenger of the bus or an
entrant to the bus interchange must, if asked by a
police officer or an approved person anywhere in or in
the immediate vicinity of the bus or bus interchange,
do one or more of the following for the purpose of
ensuring the safety or security of persons who are or
may be on board the bus or at the bus interchange:

- (a) undergo any form of security screening
mentioned in subsection (2);
- (b) undergo a frisk search;
- (c) permit an inspection to be made of the bus
passenger’s or entrant’s personal property;
- (d) permit a search through any bag, container
or other receptacle or any garments
removed in accordance with subsection (2).

(2) To ensure the safety or security of persons who
are or may be on board a bus or at any bus
interchange, a police officer or an approved person
may ask a bus passenger of the bus or an entrant to the
bus interchange to do one or more of the following:

- (a) walk through a screening detector;
- (b) pass the bus passenger’s or entrant’s
personal property through an X-ray
machine;

- (c) allow the police officer or approved person to pass a hand-held scanner in close proximity to the bus passenger's or entrant's personal property;
 - (d) allow the police officer or approved person to inspect the bus passenger's or entrant's personal property; 5
 - (e) produce or empty the contents of any bag, container or other receptacle in the possession or apparently in the immediate control of the bus passenger or entrant; 10
 - (f) turn out the bus passenger's or entrant's pockets or remove all articles from the bus passenger's or entrant's clothing, and allow the police officer or approved person to inspect them; 15
 - (g) remove any coat, jacket, gloves, shoes or hat or any other thing worn or carried by the bus passenger or entrant, which may be conveniently removed if worn and that is specified by the police officer or approved person, and allow the police officer or approved person to inspect the coat, jacket, gloves, shoes or hat or other thing; 20
 - (h) open an article for inspection and allow the police officer or approved person to inspect the article. 25
- (3) To ensure the safety or security of persons who are or may be on board a bus or at any bus interchange, a police officer or senior approved person may also ask a bus passenger of the bus or an entrant to the bus interchange to do one or more of the following: 30
- (a) undergo a frisk search;

(b) allow the police officer or senior approved person to pass a hand-held scanner in close proximity to the bus passenger or entrant.

(4) To avoid doubt, a police officer or an approved person may make a request to a bus passenger of a bus or an entrant to a bus interchange to do anything under subsection (2)(d), (e), (f), (g) or (h) if the police officer or approved person (as the case may be) reasonably considers it necessary to make such a request under that provision, whether or not the bus passenger or entrant or the personal property of the bus passenger or entrant has been subjected to screening or a frisk search under subsection (2)(a), (b) or (c) or (3).

(5) Without limiting subsection (6), where a bus passenger of a bus or an entrant to a bus interchange refuses —

(a) to permit to be screened or inspected under subsection (2) or (3)(b) by a police officer, an approved person or a senior approved person, as the case may be —

(i) the bus passenger's or entrant's personal property; or

(ii) any bag, container or other receptacle in the possession or apparently in the immediate control of the bus passenger or entrant;

(b) to allow a police officer, an approved person or a senior approved person (as the case may be) to pass a hand-held scanner in close proximity to the bus passenger or entrant or the bus passenger's or entrant's personal property under subsection (2) or (3)(b); or

- (c) to undergo a frisk search under subsection (3)(a) by a police officer or senior approved person,

the police officer, approved person or senior approved person (as the case may be) may order the bus passenger or entrant to immediately leave the bus or bus interchange (as the case may be) with that personal property, bag, container or receptacle, as the case may be.

(6) An individual who, without reasonable excuse, refuses or fails to comply with any request or order of a police officer, an approved person or a senior approved person (as the case may be) under subsection (2), (3) or (5) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.

(7) However, it is not an offence under subsection (6) for any individual to refuse to comply with any request or order made or given by —

- (a) a police officer who is not in uniform and who fails to declare his or her office; or
- (b) an approved person or a senior approved person who fails to declare his or her office and, in the case of an outsourced enforcement officer, who also refuses to produce his or her identification card on demand being made by that individual.

(8) In this section —

“approved person”, in relation to a bus or bus interchange, means any of the following individuals who is authorised by the LTA in writing to exercise any power under this section at or in relation to the bus or bus interchange concerned:

- (a) an officer or employee of the LTA;

(b) a member of an auxiliary police force in uniform;

(c) an employee of —

(i) a bus operator holding a Class 1 bus service licence to provide a bus service using the bus; or

(ii) a bus interchange operator holding a bus interchange licence to operate the bus interchange;

(d) a security officer (within the meaning given by section 13 of the Private Security Industry Act 2007) engaged by the bus operator or bus interchange operator mentioned in paragraph (c);

(e) an outsourced enforcement officer;

“entrant”, in relation to a bus interchange, means an individual who is about to enter the bus interchange, and includes an individual who is within the bus interchange, whether or not a bus passenger;

“frisk search” means a search of an individual conducted by quickly running the hands over the individual’s outer clothing;

“hand-held scanner” means a device that may be passed over or around an individual or an individual’s personal property to detect metal, dangerous objects or explosive or other hazardous substances;

“identification card”, in relation to an outsourced enforcement officer, means an identification card issued under section 11(3) of the Land Transport Authority of Singapore Act 1995 to the officer;

“inspect”, in relation to an article, includes handling, opening, examining and moving the contents of the article;

“outsourced enforcement officer”, in relation to any provision of this Part or regulations made for the purposes of this Part, means an individual who —

5

(a) is appointed under section 11(1) of the Land Transport Authority of Singapore Act 1995;

10

(b) is authorised by or under that Act to exercise any powers under any provision of this Part or regulations made for the purposes of this Part, as the case may be; and

15

(c) is acting within that authorisation;

“personal property”, in relation to an individual, means anything carried by the individual or anything apparently in the immediate control of the individual, but does not include clothing being worn by the individual;

20

“senior approved person”, in relation to a bus or bus interchange, means an approved person who is authorised by the LTA in writing to exercise any power under this section at or in relation to the bus or bus interchange concerned, who is any of the following:

25

(a) a member of an auxiliary police force in uniform;

(b) a security officer (within the meaning given by section 13 of the Private Security Industry Act 2007) engaged by —

30

- (i) a bus operator holding a Class 1 bus service licence to provide a bus service using the bus; or
- (ii) a bus interchange operator holding a bus interchange licence to operate the bus interchange;

(c) an outsourced enforcement officer.

Bringing dangerous items into bus or bus interchange

42AB.—(1) It is also a condition of entry to any bus or bus interchange that a bus passenger of the bus or an entrant to the bus interchange must not take into or possess, when on board the bus or in the bus interchange, any dangerous item.

(2) A bus passenger of a bus or an entrant to a bus interchange must not take a dangerous item on board the bus or into the bus interchange unless the bus passenger or entrant (as the case may be) has the express permission of a police officer or an approved person to do so.

(3) An individual who contravenes subsection (2) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000.

(4) However, it is not an offence under subsection (3) if the individual disposes of the dangerous item before boarding the bus or entering the bus interchange.

(5) In this section —

“approved person” and “entrant” have the meanings given by section 42AA(8);

“dangerous item” means any of the following:

- (a) any gun, explosive, noxious substance or weapon within the meaning given by the Guns, Explosives and Weapons Control Act 2021; 5
- (b) any petroleum or any substance prescribed to be a flammable material for the purposes of the Fire Safety Act 1993; 10
- (c) any hazardous substance or corrosive substance;
- (d) any other article or substance which is capable of posing a risk to health, safety, property or the environment and is prescribed as a dangerous item. 15

Offence of wilfully endangering safety

42AC. Any person who wilfully does or omits to do anything in relation to any bus, bus depot or bus interchange as a result of which the safety of any person travelling on the bus or in the bus depot or bus interchange is endangered, or is likely to be so endangered, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 5 years or to both. 20 25

Damage to bus, bus depot or bus interchange

42AD. Any person who wilfully —

- (a) removes, destroys or damages anything that is part of any bus, bus depot or bus interchange; or 30

- (b) destroys or damages any bus, bus depot or bus interchange or any part of those premises,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$200,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both.

Compensation for damaging bus, bus depot or bus interchange

42AE.—(1) Any person who —

- (a) removes, destroys or damages anything that is part of any bus, bus depot or bus interchange; or
- (b) destroys or damages any bus, bus depot or bus interchange or any part of those premises,

whether wilfully or otherwise, is, in addition to any penalty for which the person is liable for an offence under this Act, liable to pay compensation for the damage the person has done and the compensation is recoverable by civil action or suit before any court of competent jurisdiction.

(2) Subject to subsection (1), any court before which a person is charged with an offence under this Act may assess the compensation payable under this section and may make an order for the payment of the same.

(3) Any order made under subsection (2) may be enforced as if it were a judgment in a civil action or suit.

*Division 2 — Administration and enforcement of
Part 7A*

Purpose for which powers are exercisable

42AF.—(1) An authorised officer may exercise the powers set out in section 42AG(1) to detect and investigate offences under this Part, including regulations made for the purposes of this Part (called in this Division the Regulations).

(2) To avoid doubt, nothing in this Part limits section 39 of the Land Transport Authority of Singapore Act 1995 with respect to an offence under this Part or the Regulations.

Powers of authorised officer

42AG.—(1) The powers that an authorised officer may exercise for the purpose mentioned in section 42AF(1) are all or any of the following:

- (a) to enter, at any reasonable time, any bus, bus depot or bus interchange;
- (b) to require an individual suspected of committing an offence under this Part or the Regulations to provide evidence of the individual's identity as may be required by the authorised officer;
- (c) to advise the individual to stop engaging in conduct that is an offence under this Part or the Regulations;
- (d) to photograph or film, or otherwise record the place where, or in respect of which, an offence under this Part or the Regulations was committed or is reasonably suspected to have been committed, and any individual in that place;

(e) to take statements —

(i) from an individual mentioned in paragraph (b) or (d); and

(ii) from any complainant against the individual mentioned in paragraph (b),

and to require such an individual to make and sign a declaration of the truth of the statement made by the individual.

(2) Any person who refuses to give access to, or obstructs, hinders or delays, an authorised officer or a person authorised under section 42AI in the exercise of his or her powers under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both.

(3) Any person who —

(a) refuses to provide any information required of the person by an authorised officer under subsection (1) or by a person authorised under section 42AI acting under subsection (1); or

(b) wilfully misstates that information,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500.

Powers of arrest

42AH.—(1) A police officer, or any employee of the LTA generally or specially authorised in writing by the Chief Executive of the LTA, may arrest without warrant any person found committing, or whom he or she has reason to believe has committed, an offence punishable under this Part or the Regulations.

(2) A person arrested under subsection (1) must not be detained longer than is necessary for bringing the person before a court unless the order of court for the person's continued detention is obtained.

Authorised employee of licensee, etc., to exercise certain powers of authorised officers

5

42AI. The LTA may, with the approval of the Minister, in writing authorise any licensee or employee of a licensee to exercise all or any of the powers of an authorised officer under section 42AG(1) subject to such conditions or limitations as the LTA may specify.

10

Regulations for this Part

42AJ.—(1) The LTA may make regulations under section 49 for the purposes of this Part, including —

15

(a) controlling and regulating —

(i) the conduct of bus passengers of a bus and members of the public at a bus interchange; and

(ii) any activity which may damage a bus or bus interchange or may endanger the safety of any individual who is travelling on a bus or is at a bus interchange; and

20

(b) prescribing the terms and conditions relating to the use of any bus or bus interchange.

25

(2) Regulations made for the purposes of this Part may apply to —

(a) all buses, particular types of buses or buses operated in a particular manner; and

30

(b) all bus interchanges or particular types of bus interchanges.”;

(j) after section 47, insert —

“Protection from personal liability

47A. No liability shall lie against any member, officer or employee of the LTA or any other person acting under the direction of the LTA for anything done or intended to be done with reasonable care and in good faith in the execution or purported execution of this Act.”; and

(k) in section 49(3)(a), after “exceeding \$5,000”, insert “and, in the case of a continuing offence, a further fine of \$100 for every day or part of a day during which the offence continues after conviction”.

Amendment of Multimodal Transport Act 2021

3. In the Multimodal Transport Act 2021, in section 11(2) and (3), replace “consignor” with “consignee”.

Amendment of Public Transport Council Act 1987

4. In the Public Transport Council Act 1987 —

(a) in section 32(4)(a), after “in full or in part”, insert “for the purpose mentioned in subsection (1)(a)”;

(b) in section 32, after subsection (4), insert —

“(5) Despite subsection (4), the Council may, subject to such conditions as the Council thinks fit, grant an application to withdraw any sum of money from the Fund, for a purpose other than the purpose mentioned in subsection (1)(a), if —

(a) the Fund is established and maintained by a person to whom a Class 1 bus service licence has been granted (called *A*);

(b) the application is made by *A*;

(c) the sum of money applied to be withdrawn does not exceed *Z*; and

(d) the sum of money that is applied to be withdrawn does not include any amount paid into the Fund under subsection (1)(b) on or after the date of commencement of section 4 of the Transport Sector (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 2025. 5

(6) In subsection (5)(c), Z is an amount determined in accordance with the formula $X - Y$, where —

(a) X is the amount standing in the Fund immediately before 1 January 2014; and 10

(b) Y is the aggregate of the sum of moneys withdrawn from the Fund under subsection (4)(a) or (5) (as the case may be) on or after 1 January 2014 but prior to the application in question.”; 15

(c) in sections 33(1) and 40(1)(c), after “section 32(4)”, insert “or (5)”; and

(d) in section 67, replace subsection (1) with —

“(1) The Council, or any officer of the Council or the LTA authorised by the Council, may compound any offence under this Act or any regulations made under this Act that is prescribed as a compoundable offence by collecting from a person reasonably suspected of having committed the offence a sum not exceeding the lower of the following: 20 25

(a) one half of the amount of the maximum fine that is prescribed for the offence;

(b) \$10,000.”.

Amendment of Road Traffic Act 1961

5. In the Road Traffic Act 1961, delete sections 127B and 127C. 30

PART 2

SEA TRANSPORT

Amendment of Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore Act 1996

- 5 **6.** In the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore Act 1996 —
- (a) in section 2, in the definition of “appointed officer”,
 replace “section 89A(1)” with “section 89H(1)”;
- (b) in section 2, after the definition of “public licence”,
 insert —
- 10 ““Public Utilities Board” means the Public Utilities
 Board continued under section 3 of the Public
 Utilities Act 2001;”;
- (c) in section 2, after the definition of “regulations”, insert —
- ““reservoir” means a body of water maintained as a
15 reservoir by the Public Utilities Board in the
 following areas as defined in regulations made
 under section 72 of the Public Utilities Act 2001:
- (a) a Catchment Area Park;
- (b) the Central Water Catchment Area;”;
- 20 (d) in section 2, after the definition of “vessel”, insert —
- ““waterway” has the meaning given by section 2 of
 the Public Utilities Act 2001;”;
- (e) in section 27, after subsection (1), insert —
- 25 “(1A) Where any fee is prescribed under
 subsection (1) for the use of a deposit site described
 in section 79(11A) —
- (a) the fee may take into account the cost of
30 any of the matters specified in the Fourth
 Schedule, and may further be of an amount
 to encourage the deposit of objects and
 materials appropriately and responsibly,
 and in a sustainable manner;

(b) different fees may be prescribed in relation to different objects or materials being deposited at different deposit sites;

(c) the amount of the fee may be prescribed on a per unit volume basis; and

(d) for the purposes of calculating the fee, the quantity or volume of objects or materials being deposited may be determined by the Authority in such manner as it thinks fit.”;

(f) in section 79, after subsection (11), insert —

“(11A) For the purpose of subsection (1)(b), the Authority may demarcate any part of a river, waterway or the seashore as described in subsection (1)(a) as a site (called in this section a deposit site) at which any object or material may be deposited, and may do such things as it considers necessary to develop, manage, monitor or maintain the deposit site.

(11B) To avoid doubt, where any deposit site was originally a part of a river, waterway or the seashore lying below the high-water mark of ordinary tides, nothing in this section prevents the Authority from giving or continuing to give consent for any object or material to be deposited at the deposit site even though the deposit of the object or material would be at or above the high-water mark of ordinary tides at that deposit site.”;

(g) after Part 13, insert —

“PART 13A

REGULATION OF INLAND CRAFT

Administration of this Part

89H.—(1) The Chief Executive may in writing —

(a) authorise any officer or employee of the Authority; or

- (b) appoint any officer of another statutory body,

as an appointed officer for the purposes of regulating inland craft under this Act.

- 5 (2) Every appointed officer, when exercising any power or carrying out any duty of an appointed officer under this Act, must comply with such general or specific directions as the Chief Executive may, from time to time, give to the appointed officer.

10 **Power to board inland craft, etc.**

89I.—(1) Without limiting any powers under Parts 15 and 16, any appointed officer may exercise all or any of the powers in subsection (2) for the purpose of —

- 15 (a) ascertaining whether the provisions of the regulations made under section 89J are being complied with; or
- (b) investigating any offence under the regulations made under section 89J.

- 20 (2) The powers mentioned in subsection (1) are as follows:

- (a) to board any inland craft;
- (b) to search any inland craft and take possession of anything found on board the inland craft;
- 25 (c) to require any person to produce any record, certificate, notice or document that is in the person's possession;
- (d) to take and retain extracts from or copies of any record, certificate, notice or document mentioned in paragraph (c);
- 30 (e) to take and retain samples of any materials (whether solid, liquid, gaseous or vapour)

- found on board the inland craft for analysis for the purpose in subsection (1)(a) or (b);
- (f) to take such photographs as the officer reasonably believes to be necessary for the purpose in subsection (1)(a) or (b); 5
- (g) to require any person to —
- (i) provide evidence of the person's identity; or
 - (ii) produce for inspection any papers relating to the registration of the inland craft or for the purpose of identifying the inland craft. 10

Regulations for this Part

89J.—(1) The Authority may, with the approval of the Minister, make regulations for the purposes of this Part, including all or any of the following matters: 15

- (a) the construction of inland craft, including the machinery, equipment, fittings, installations, appliances and apparatus of inland craft; 20
- (b) the maintenance of inland craft, including the provision, maintenance and stowage of life-saving and fire-fighting appliances and apparatus;
- (c) the survey of inland craft, and the issue, suspension, cancellation or extension, and period of validity, of certificates or exemption certificates relating to such survey, and the types and forms of the certificates; 25 30
- (d) the measures and standards to be complied with where dangerous cargoes are conveyed, utilised, stowed or kept on

board any inland craft while within any reservoir or waterway;

(e) the safe operation and navigation of inland craft in reservoirs and waterways, their use of navigation lights and signals in the reservoirs and waterways, and the steps to be taken for avoiding collision;

(f) the qualifications required for manning inland craft, including requiring officers and crew of inland craft to satisfy all or any of the following requirements:

(i) to undergo any training that the Port Master may require;

(ii) to attain a certain standard of competence or a certain grade in a specified examination;

(iii) to obtain any specified licence, certificate or approval;

(g) to provide that any contravention of or failure to comply with any regulations made under this section shall be an offence punishable with —

(i) a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or both; and

(ii) in the case of a continuing offence, a further fine not exceeding \$250 for every day or part of a day during which the offence continues after conviction;

(h) to prescribe anything that may be prescribed under this Part.

(2) The Authority may, in making regulations under subsection (1), incorporate by reference —

- (a) any regulation made by the Authority under section 119 or under the Merchant Shipping Act 1995, with or without modification; or
- (b) any recognised international standard, code or guideline relating to the safety of operation and navigation of, the standards of construction of, the manning of, or the loading or carriage of goods (including dangerous goods) on, vessels or inland craft.
 - (3) For the purposes of subsection (2)(b), the Authority may incorporate by reference any standard, code or guideline mentioned in that provision —
 - (a) either as in force on a particular date specified or as amended from time to time; and
 - (b) with or without modification.
 - (4) The Authority must cause all standards, codes or guidelines incorporated by it under subsection (2)(b) to be published on the Authority’s Internet website at <https://www.mpa.gov.sg> or any other prescribed website.”;
- (h) in sections 97A(6), 102(2) and 111(2)(b), replace “section 89C” with “section 89J”;
- (i) in section 103, in the section heading, replace “**to Authority**” with “**into Consolidated Fund**”;
- (j) in section 118A, in the section heading, replace “**Schedule**” with “**and Fourth Schedules**”;
- (k) in section 118A, after “Third”, insert “or Fourth”; and
- (l) after the Third Schedule, insert —

“FOURTH SCHEDULE

Sections 27(1A) and 118A

MATTERS THE COST OF WHICH MAY BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN PRESCRIBING FEES UNDER SECTION 27(1A)

1. Developing, managing, monitoring and maintaining any deposit site, and identifying any new deposit site.

2. Monitoring the deposit of objects or materials at any deposit site by any person.

3. Investigating the impact of the deposit of objects or materials at any deposit site on the surrounding seabed and marine environment.

4. Taking measures to minimise or mitigate any impact mentioned in paragraph 3 and to protect the surrounding seabed and marine environment.

5. Taking measures to ensure the safe navigation of vessels in the waters surrounding any deposit site.

6. Conducting research into and developing technology to support any deposit of objects or materials at any current or future deposit site.”.

Validation

7.—(1) Every amount collected before the date of commencement of this section by the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (or its predecessor) (called in this section the Authority) as, or purportedly as, a fee, or interest for the late payment of a fee, for services or facilities provided by the Authority in connection with the depositing of any object or material on any part of a river, waterway or the seashore (within the meaning given by section 79(12) of the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore Act 1996) is deemed to be and always to have been, by force of this section, validly collected.

(2) No legal proceedings may be instituted on or after 26 September 2025 in any court on account of or in respect of any collection or payment of any amount mentioned in subsection (1).

(3) However, nothing in subsections (1) and (2) applies to, or may be construed to affect —

- (a) any decision or judgment issued by any court given before 26 September 2025; or
- (b) any proceedings before any court commenced before 26 September 2025,

in relation to the liability of any person to pay any amount mentioned in subsection (1). 5

Amendment of Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (Amendment) Act 2017

8. In the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (Amendment) Act 2017, delete sections 2(e), (f) and (h) and 9. 10

Amendment of Merchant Shipping Act 1995

9. In the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 —

- (a) in section 2(1), in the definition of “Director”, replace “the Deputy Director of Marine” with “a Deputy Director of Marine”; 15
- (b) in section 4, in the section heading, after “**Director of Marine**”, insert “, etc.”;
- (c) in section 4(1), replace “a Deputy Director of Marine” with “one or more Deputy Directors of Marine”;
- (d) in the following provisions, replace “declaration” with “statement”: 20
 - Section 11(1)(b)
 - Section 13(1)(c)
 - Section 21(1)(a), (b) and (c) and (2)
 - Section 39(2); 25
- (e) in section 11(2), replace “declarations on behalf of the corporation, has made and signed a declaration” with “statements on behalf of the corporation, has made and signed a statement”;
- (f) in section 11(2)(d), replace the semi-colon at the end with a full-stop; 30

- (g) in section 11(2), delete paragraph (e);
- (h) in section 18(3), delete “and must endorse on the bill of sale the fact of that entry having been made with the date and time thereof”;
- 5 (i) in section 21(1)(a), delete “and (e)”;
- (j) in section 32(1), replace “declaration of” with “statement of transmission made by”;
- (k) in section 32(2) and (3), replace “declaration” with “statement of transmission”; and
- 10 (l) in section 186(1)(d), after “declaration”, insert “or statement”.

Related amendment to Public Utilities Act 2001

- 15 **10.** In the Public Utilities Act 2001, in section 72(2A) (as inserted by section 18(c) of the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (Amendment) Act 2017), replace “section 89C of the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore Act (Cap. 170A)” with “section 89J of the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore Act 1996”.

PART 3

SAVING AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

20 Saving and transitional provision for Part 1

11. Every authorisation that —

- 25 (a) is given, before the date of commencement of section 5 by the Land Transport Authority of Singapore under section 127B(9) of the Road Traffic Act 1961 in respect of an approved person or a senior approved person; and
- (b) is in force immediately before that date,

is to continue as if the Land Transport Authority of Singapore had given the authorisation under section 42AA(8) of the Bus Services Industry Act 2015 as amended by this Act.

Saving and transitional provisions for Part 2

12.—(1) Despite section 9(*d*), (*e*), (*f*) and (*g*), sections 11 and 13 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 as in force immediately before the date of commencement of those provisions continue to apply to and in relation to any pending application for the registry of a ship that was submitted before that date.

5

(2) Despite section 9(*d*) and (*i*), section 21 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 as in force immediately before the date of commencement of those provisions continues to apply to and in relation to any declaration of transmission produced to the Registrar of Singapore ships before that date.

10

(3) Despite section 9(*j*) and (*k*), section 32 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 as in force immediately before the date of commencement of those provisions continues to apply to and in relation to any declaration of transmission received by the Registrar of Singapore ships before that date.

15

(4) Despite section 9(*d*), section 39(2) of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 as in force immediately before the date of commencement of that provision continues to apply to and in relation to any declaration setting forth an error to be corrected that is produced to the Registrar of Singapore ships under section 39(2) of that Act before that date.

20

General saving and transitional provision

13. For a period of 2 years after the date of commencement of any provision of this Act, the Minister may, by regulations, prescribe any additional provisions of a saving or transitional nature consequent on the enactment of that provision that the Minister may consider necessary or expedient.

25

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This Bill seeks to make various amendments to various transport-related legislation and a related amendment to the Public Utilities Act 2001.

Part 1 (clauses 2 to 5) makes various amendments to land transport-related legislation (the Bus Services Industry Act 2015, the Multimodal Transport Act 2021, the Public Transport Council Act 1987 and the Road Traffic Act 1961).

Part 2 (clauses 6 to 10) makes various amendments to sea transport-related legislation (the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore Act 1996, the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (Amendment) Act 2017 and the Merchant Shipping Act 1995) and a related amendment to the Public Utilities Act 2001.

Part 3 (clauses 11, 12 and 13) provides for saving and transitional provisions.

Clause 1 relates to the short title and commencement.

PART 1

LAND TRANSPORT

Clause 2 amends the Bus Services Industry Act 2015, primarily to align the regulatory and enforcement powers relating to buses, bus depots and bus interchanges with the regulatory powers relating to railways and railway premises in the Rapid Transit Systems Act 1995, in the following manner:

- (a) the long title is amended to provide that the Bus Services Industry Act 2015 regulates the conduct of individuals on buses within Singapore and at bus depots and bus interchanges in Singapore;
- (b) the definition of “bus depot” in section 2 is amended to specify that a bus depot will include premises with purpose-built facilities for the charging of the batteries of buses (when the battery is attached to the bus) by bus operators holding Class 1 bus service licences;
- (c) the definition of “bus interchange” in section 2 is amended to cater for some bus interchanges where the boarding and alighting of passengers may not take place;
- (d) a new definition of “bus passenger” is introduced in section 2 to support the provisions in the new Part 7A;
- (e) a consequential amendment to the definition of “operate” in section 2 is made arising from the amendment to the definition of “bus depot”;
- (f) section 3 is amended to provide that one of the purposes of the Bus Services Industry Act 2015 is to regulate the conduct of bus passengers of buses, and members of the public at bus depots and bus interchanges, in Singapore;

- (g) section 5 is amended to provide that it is the function of the Land Transport Authority of Singapore (LTA) to exercise regulatory functions in accordance with the Bus Services Industry Act 2015 with respect to the conduct of bus passengers of buses, and members of the public at bus depots and bus interchanges, in Singapore;
- (h) a new Part 7A is inserted to regulate the conduct of individuals on buses and at bus depots and bus interchanges and provides for the administration and enforcement of that Part;
- (i) a new section 47A is inserted to protect any member, officer or employee of the LTA and any person acting under the direction of the LTA from personal liability for acts done with reasonable care and in good faith;
- (j) section 49(3)(a) is amended to specify that regulations made under the Bus Services Industry Act 2015 may also provide a further penalty for a continuing offence.

The new Part 7A provides for the screening of bus passengers of buses and entrants to bus interchanges and prohibits the bringing of dangerous items into buses and bus interchanges. These provisions are currently found in the Road Traffic Act 1961 and are now being consolidated in the Bus Services Industry Act 2015.

The new Part 7A also creates certain offences such as the offence of wilfully endangering the safety of persons travelling on buses or within bus depots or bus interchanges and damaging any bus, bus depot or bus interchange. These offences are introduced in the Bus Services Industry Act 2015 to align with the offences in the Rapid Transit Systems Act 1995 in relation to railways and railway premises.

The new Part 7A further provides that the LTA may make regulations under section 49 for the purposes of controlling and regulating the conduct of bus passengers of a bus and members of the public at a bus interchange and activities that may damage a bus or bus interchange or endanger the safety of others on buses or at bus interchanges. These regulations may apply generally to all buses and bus interchanges, or to particular types of buses and bus interchanges or buses operated in a particular manner.

Clause 3 makes a miscellaneous amendment to section 11(2) and (3) of the Multimodal Transport Act 2021 to change the reference from “consignor” to “consignee”.

Clause 4 amends section 32 of the Public Transport Council Act 1987 to allow the Public Transport Council (PTC) to grant an application to withdraw moneys from the Fuel Equalisation Fund (FEF) for purposes other than the purpose of mitigating the effects of any increase in fuel price and electricity tariff. Section 32 requires every person to whom a Class 1 bus service licence has been granted to

establish and maintain an FEF and pay into the FEF an annual contribution of such amount as the PTC determines. Given the introduction of the energy index within the fare formula since November 2013, there is no longer a need to mitigate the effects of any increase in fuel price and electricity tariff. As such, the PTC has not required Class 1 bus service licensees to make contributions to the FEF from 1 January 2014. This amendment seeks to allow the licensees to withdraw funds contributed to the FEF before 1 January 2014 if certain conditions are satisfied.

Clause 4 also amends section 67 of the Public Transport Council Act 1987 to revise the maximum composition sum for offences which are prescribed as compoundable offences.

Clause 5 deletes sections 127B and 127C of the Road Traffic Act 1961 as a consequence of these provisions being inserted into the Bus Services Industry Act 1995 by clause 2.

PART 2

SEA TRANSPORT

Clause 6 amends the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore Act 1996 (the MPA Act) for the following purposes:

- (a) to allow the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA), when prescribing under section 27(1) of the MPA Act any fee payable by a person depositing any object or material at a deposit site demarcated by the MPA, to take into account the cost of any of the matters specified in the new Fourth Schedule;
- (b) for the purpose of giving consent for the deposit of objects or materials under section 79(1)(b) of the MPA Act, to empower the MPA to demarcate any part of a river, waterway or the seashore lying below the high-water mark of ordinary tides as a deposit site for the depositing of any object or material;
- (c) to renumber the section numbers of a new Part XIII A (comprising sections 89A, 89B and 89C) and related provisions which were enacted by the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (Amendment) Act 2017 (the 2017 Act) and have yet to come into force but were affected by intervening amendments to the MPA Act, by re-enacting these provisions as a new Part 13A (comprising sections 89H, 89I and 89J and related provisions, with some editorial changes);
- (d) to update the cross-references to the renumbered provisions;

- (e) to require any standard, code or guideline incorporated by the new section 89J(3) to be published on the MPA's website or any other prescribed website;
- (f) to empower the MPA to make regulations to prescribe anything that may be prescribed under the new Part 13A;
- (g) to correct the section heading of section 103 which had been amended by the 2017 Act;
- (h) to empower the Minister to amend the new Fourth Schedule by way of an order published in the *Gazette*;
- (i) to insert a new Fourth Schedule containing the matters the cost of which may be taken into account in prescribing the fees under the new section 27(1A).

Clause 7 seeks to validate past collections of fees, and interest for late payment of fees, paid to the MPA or its predecessor for the provision of services or facilities in connection with the depositing of objects or materials on any part of a river, waterway or the seashore.

Clause 8 amends the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (Amendment) Act 2017 to delete the provisions that are re-enacted in this Bill.

Clause 9 amends the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 for the following purposes:

- (a) to allow for the appointment of more than one Deputy Director of Marine;
- (b) to replace the requirement for declarations in sections 11, 13, 21, 32 and 39 with a requirement for statements and to provide for the admissibility of those statements under section 186;
- (c) to do away with the requirement for the Registrar of Singapore ships to endorse on the original hardcopy bill of sale that an entry in the register of ships has been made.

Clause 10 makes a related amendment to the Public Utilities Act 2001 due to the renumbering of the provisions enacted by the 2017 Act and re-enacted by clause 6(g).

PART 3

SAVING AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Clause 11 provides for a saving provision to preserve the appointment of approved persons and senior approved persons who were authorised by the LTA under the deleted section 127B(9) of the Road Traffic Act 1961. This will allow those persons to continue to exercise the powers under the Bus Services Industry Act 2015 in a similar capacity without being authorised again by the LTA.

Clause 12 provides for the continued application of the existing provisions relating to declarations made under the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 that have been submitted, received or produced before the date of commencement of clause 9(*d*) to (*g*), (*i*), (*j*) and (*k*).

Clause 13 empowers the Minister to make regulations to prescribe additional provisions of a saving or transitional nature consequent on the enactment of any provision of the Bill as the Minister may consider necessary or expedient. The Minister has power to do so only within 2 years after the date of commencement of the provision.

EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC MONEY

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