VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE

Second Session

TUESDAY, 5 NOVEMBER 2019

No. 114 **11.00 am** 1

PRESENT:

Mr SPEAKER (Mr Tan Chuan-Jin (Marine Parade)).

Mr AMRIN AMIN (Sembawang), Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Health.

Mr ANG HIN KEE (Ang Mo Kio).

Mr ANG WEI NENG (Jurong).

Mr BAEY YAM KENG (Tampines), Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Transport and Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth.

Miss CHERYL CHAN WEI LING (Fengshan).

Mr CHEE HONG TAT (Bishan-Toa Payoh), Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Trade and Industry and Ministry of Education.

Mr CHEN SHOW MAO (Aljunied).

Miss CHENG LI HUI (Tampines).

Mr CHARLES CHONG (Punggol East), Deputy Speaker.

Mr DESMOND CHOO (Tampines).

Mr DARRYL DAVID (Ang Mo Kio).

Mr CHRISTOPHER DE SOUZA (Holland-Bukit Timah).

Mr ARASU DURAISAMY (Nominated Member).

Prof FATIMAH LATEEF (Marine Parade).

Mr CEDRIC FOO CHEE KENG (Pioneer).

Mr DOUGLAS FOO (Nominated Member).

Ms GRACE FU HAI YIEN (Yuhua), Minister for Culture, Community and Youth and Leader of the House.

Mr GAN KIM YONG (Chua Chu Kang), Minister for Health.

Mr GAN THIAM POH (Ang Mo Kio).

Mr GOH CHOK TONG (Marine Parade).

Assoc Prof DANIEL GOH PEI SIONG (Non-Constituency Member).

Mr HENG CHEE HOW (Jalan Besar), Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Defence.

Mr HENG SWEE KEAT (Tampines), Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance.

Mr TERENCE HO WEE SAN (Nominated Member).

Ms INDRANEE RAJAH (Tanjong Pagar), Minister, Prime Minister's Office, Second Minister for Finance and Second Minister for Education.

Dr INTAN AZURA MOKHTAR (Ang Mo Kio).

Mr S ISWARAN (West Coast), Minister for Communications and Information and Minister-incharge of Trade Relations.

Dr JANIL PUTHUCHEARY (Pasir Ris-Punggol), Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Transport and Ministry of Communications and Information and Government Whip.

Mr KHAW BOON WAN (Sembawang), Coordinating Minister for Infrastructure and Minister for Transport.

Dr LAM PIN MIN (Sengkang West), Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Transport.

Er Dr LEE BEE WAH (Nee Soon).

Mr DESMOND LEE (Jurong), Minister for Social and Family Development and Second Minister for National Development and Deputy Leader of the House.

Mr LEE HSIEN LOONG (Ang Mo Kio), Prime Minister.

Mr LIANG ENG HWA (Holland-Bukit Timah).

Mr LIM BIOW CHUAN (Mountbatten), Deputy Speaker.

Mr LIM HNG KIANG (West Coast).

Mr LIM SWEE SAY (East Coast).

Ms SYLVIA LIM (Aljunied).

Dr LIM WEE KIAK (Sembawang).

Mr LOW THIA KHIANG (Aljunied).

Ms LOW YEN LING (Chua Chu Kang), Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Manpower.

Dr MOHAMAD MALIKI BIN OSMAN (East Coast), Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Mr MOHAMED IRSHAD (Nominated Member).

Mr MUHAMAD FAISAL ABDUL MANAP (Aljunied).

Assoc Prof Dr MUHAMMAD FAISHAL IBRAHIM (Nee Soon), Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Social and Family Development.

Mr MURALI PILLAI (Bukit Batok).

Mr NG CHEE MENG (Pasir Ris-Punggol), Minister, Prime Minister's Office.

Mr LOUIS NG KOK KWANG (Nee Soon).

Ms ANTHEA ONG (Nominated Member).

Mr ONG TENG KOON (Marsiling-Yew Tee).

Mr ONG YE KUNG (Sembawang), Minister for Education.

Mr LEON PERERA (Non-Constituency Member).

Ms DENISE PHUA LAY PENG (Jalan Besar).

Mr PNG ENG HUAT (Hougang).

Mr PRITAM SINGH (Aljunied).

Ms IRENE QUAY SIEW CHING (Nominated Member).

Mr SAKTIANDI SUPAAT (Bishan-Toa Payoh).

Mr SEAH KIAN PENG (Marine Parade).

Mr K SHANMUGAM (Nee Soon), Minister for Home Affairs and Minister for Law.

Ms SIM ANN (Holland-Bukit Timah), Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Communications and Information and Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth and Deputy Government Whip.

Mr SITOH YIH PIN (Potong Pasir).

Ms SUN XUELING (Pasir Ris-Punggol), Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of National Development.

Mr DENNIS TAN LIP FONG (Non-Constituency Member).

Ms JESSICA TAN SOON NEO (East Coast).

Mr SAM TAN CHIN SIONG (Radin Mas), Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Social and Family Development.

Mr PATRICK TAY TECK GUAN (West Coast).

Mr TEO CHEE HEAN (Pasir Ris-Punggol), Senior Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security.

Dr TEO HO PIN (Bukit Panjang).

Mrs JOSEPHINE TEO (Bishan-Toa Payoh), Minister for Manpower and Second Minister for Home Affairs.

Mr TEO SER LUCK (Pasir Ris-Punggol).

Assoc Prof WALTER THESEIRA (Nominated Member).

Ms TIN PEI LING (MacPherson).

Mr EDWIN TONG CHUN FAI (Marine Parade), Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Law and Ministry of Health.

Dr VIVIAN BALAKRISHNAN (Holland-Bukit Timah), Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Mr LAWRENCE WONG (Marsiling-Yew Tee), Minister for National Development and Second Minister for Finance.

Prof YAACOB IBRAHIM (Jalan Besar).

Mr ALEX YAM ZIMING (Marsiling-Yew Tee).

Mr YEE CHIA HSING (Chua Chu Kang).

Ms YIP PIN XIU (Nominated Member).

Mr MELVIN YONG YIK CHYE (Tanjong Pagar).

Mr ZAINAL SAPARI (Pasir Ris-Punggol).

Mr ZAQY MOHAMAD (Chua Chu Kang), Minister of State, Ministry of National Development and Ministry of Manpower and Deputy Government Whip.

ABSENT:

Mr CHAN CHUN SING (Tanjong Pagar), Minister for Trade and Industry.

Dr CHIA SHI-LU (Tanjong Pagar).

Mr CHONG KEE HIONG (Bishan-Toa Payoh).

Ms FOO MEE HAR (West Coast).

Dr AMY KHOR LEAN SUAN (Hong Kah North), Senior Minister of State, Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources and Ministry of Health.

Dr KOH POH KOON (Ang Mo Kio), Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Trade and Industry.

Mr KWEK HIAN CHUAN HENRY (Nee Soon).

Mr LEE YI SHYAN (East Coast).

Prof LIM SUN SUN (Nominated Member).

Mr MASAGOS ZULKIFLI B M M (Tampines), Minister for the Environment and Water Resources and Minister-in-charge of Muslim Affairs.

Dr LILY NEO (Jalan Besar).

Dr NG ENG HEN (Bishan-Toa Payoh), Minister for Defence.

Ms JOAN PEREIRA (Tanjong Pagar).

Ms RAHAYU MAHZAM (Jurong).

Dr TAN WU MENG (Jurong), Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Trade and Industry.

Mr THARMAN SHANMUGARATNAM (Jurong), Senior Minister and Coordinating Minister for Social Policies.

Mr VIKRAM NAIR (Sembawang).

- Paper presented to Parliament and received by the Clerk of Parliament pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Presentation of Papers) and ordered to lie upon the Table:
 - Legal Profession (Unclaimed Money Fund) Rules 2019 Presented on 5 November 2019 (S. L. 723 of 2019).
- 2 16 Questions for Oral Answer were answered during Question Time.
- 3 Supreme Court of Judicature (Amendment) Bill read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House.

The House immediately resolved itself into a Committee on the Bill – (Senior Minister of State, on behalf of the Minister for Law).

(In the Committee)

Clauses 1 to 11 inclusive agreed to.

Clause 12:

With the consent of Speaker and assent of the majority of Members present under Standing Order No. 74(3)(a), amendment made, in page 7, line 26, by leaving out "date" and inserting "time".

Clause 12, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 13 to 32 inclusive agreed to.

The Schedule agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

Bill reported, with an amendment; read a third time.

4 Judges' Remuneration (Amendment) Bill – read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House.

The House immediately resolved itself into a Committee on the Bill – (Senior Minister of State, on behalf of the Minister for Law).

(In the Committee)

Clauses 1 to 5 inclusive agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

Bill reported, without amendment; read a third time.

5 Constitution of the Republic of Singapore (Amendment) Bill - (Senior Minister of State, on behalf of the Minister for Law) - Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a second time."

On Question put – a division was taken: Ayes 72, No Nil, Abstention Nil.

Ayes No Abstention

Nil

Amrin Amin

Nil

Ang Hin Kee

Ang Wei Neng

Baey Yam Keng

Chan Wei Ling, Cheryl

Chee Hong Tat

Chen Show Mao

Cheng Li Hui

Chong, Charles

Choo, Desmond

Darryl David

De Souza, Christopher

Fatimah Lateef

Foo Chee Keng, Cedric

Fu Hai Yien, Grace

Gan Kim Yong

Gan Thiam Poh

Goh Chok Tong

Goh Pei Siong, Daniel

Heng Chee How

Indranee Rajah

Intan Azura Mokhtar

Iswaran, S.

Janil Puthucheary

Khaw Boon Wan

Lam Pin Min

Lee Bee Wah

Lee, Desmond

Lee Hsien Loong

Lim Biow Chuan

Lim Hng Kiang

Lim Swee Say

Lim, Sylvia

Lim Wee Kiak

Low Thia Khiang

Low Yen Ling

Mohamad Maliki Osman

Muhamad Faisal Abdul Manap

Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim

Murali Pillai

Ng Chee Meng

Ng Kok Kwang, Louis

Ong Teng Koon

Perera, Leon

Phua Lay Peng, Denise

Png Eng Huat

Pritam Singh

8

Ayes - continued

Saktiandi Supaat

Seah Kian Peng

Shanmugam, K.

Sim Ann

Sitoh Yih Pin

Sun Xueling

Tan Chin Siong, Sam

Tan Chuan-Jin

Tan Lip Fong, Dennis

Tan Soon Neo, Jessica

Tay Teck Guan, Patrick

Teo Chee Hean

Teo Ho Pin

Teo, Josephine

Teo Ser Luck

Tin Pei Ling

Tong Chun Fai, Edwin

Vivian Balakrishnan

Wong, Lawrence

Yaacob Ibrahim

Yam Ziming, Alex

Yee Chia Hsing

Yong Yik Chye, Melvin

Zainal Sapari

Zaqy Mohamad

Bill accordingly read a second time in accordance with Article 5(2) of the Constitution of the Republic of Singapore and committed to a Committee of the whole House.

The House immediately resolved itself into a Committee on the Bill – (Senior Minister of State, on behalf of the Minister for Law).

(In the Committee)

Clauses 1 to 14 inclusive agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

Bill reported, without amendment.

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a third time.". – (Senior Minister of State, on behalf of the Minister for Law).

On Question put – a division was taken: Ayes 72, No Nil, Abstention Nil.

No Abstention Ayes Amrin Amin Nil Nil Ang Hin Kee Ang Wei Neng Baey Yam Keng Chan Wei Ling, Cheryl Chee Hong Tat Chen Show Mao Cheng Li Hui Chong, Charles Choo, Desmond Darryl David De Souza, Christopher Fatimah Lateef Foo Chee Keng, Cedric Fu Hai Yien, Grace Gan Kim Yong Gan Thiam Poh Goh Chok Tong Goh Pei Siong, Daniel Heng Chee How Indranee Rajah Intan Azura Mokhtar Iswaran, S. Janil Puthucheary Khaw Boon Wan Lam Pin Min Lee Bee Wah Lee, Desmond Lee Hsien Loong Lim Biow Chuan Lim Hng Kiang Lim Swee Say Lim, Sylvia Lim Wee Kiak Low Thia Khiang Low Yen Ling Mohamad Maliki Osman Muhamad Faisal Abdul Manap Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim Murali Pillai Ng Chee Meng Ng Kok Kwang, Louis Ong Teng Koon Perera, Leon

Phua Lay Peng, Denise Png Eng Huat Pritam Singh Aves - continued

Saktiandi Supaat

Seah Kian Peng

Shanmugam, K.

Sim Ann

Sitoh Yih Pin

Sun Xueling

Tan Chin Siong, Sam

Tan Chuan-Jin

Tan Lip Fong, Dennis

Tan Soon Neo, Jessica

Tay Teck Guan, Patrick

Teo Chee Hean

Teo Ho Pin

Teo, Josephine

Teo, Josephin Teo Ser Luck

Tin Pei Ling

Till I Ci Ling

Tong Chun Fai, Edwin

Vivian Balakrishnan

Wong, Lawrence

Yaacob Ibrahim

Yam Ziming, Alex

Yee Chia Hsing

Yong Yik Chye, Melvin

Zainal Sapari

Zaqy Mohamad

Bill accordingly read a third time in accordance with Article 5(2) of the Constitution of the Republic of Singapore..

- Subscription to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (Second Minister for Finance (Ms Indranee Rajah)) Motion made, and Question put Resolved, "That this Parliament, in accordance with section 7(3) of the Bretton Woods Agreement Act (Chapter 27 of the 2012 Revised Edition), resolves that the total subscription of Singapore to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development be increased to a sum not exceeding Eight Hundred and Fifty-Eight Million United States Dollars (US\$ 858 million)."
- Subscription to the International Development Association (Second Minister for Finance (Ms Indranee Rajah)) Motion made, and Question put Resolved, "That this Parliament, in accordance with section 4(2) of the International Development Association Act (Chapter 144A of the 2003 Revised Edition), resolves that the total subscription of Singapore to the International Development Association be increased to a sum not exceeding One Million and Three Hundred Thousand United States Dollars (US\$ 1.3 million)."
- Time Limit for Speeches (Leader of the House) (with the consent of Mr Speaker and the general assent of Members present) Motion made, and Question put Resolved, "That the proceedings on the item under discussion be exempted from the provisions of Standing Order No. 48(8) to remove the time limit in respect of the Deputy Prime Minister's speech."
- 9 Governance of Aljunied-Hougang Town Council (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance) Motion made, and Question proposed –

"That this Parliament:

- affirms the vital importance of Members of Parliament maintaining high standards of integrity and accountability;
- (ii) notes the Judgment in Aljunied-Hougang Town Council & anor v Lim Swee Lian Sylvia and ors and anor suit [2019] SGHC 241, where, amongst other things, the Court held that:

- (a) Ms Sylvia Lim ("Ms Lim") and Mr Low Thia Khiang ("Mr Low") had acted dishonestly and in breach of their fiduciary duties, and their conduct lacked integrity and candour; and
- (b) Ms Lim and Mr Low were fully aware that their conduct was of questionable legality;
- (iii) notes that Ms Lim remains Vice-Chairman of Aljunied-Hougang Town Council, and Mr Low remains an elected member of Aljunied-Hougang Town Council: and
- (iv) calls on Aljunied-Hougang Town Council to discharge their responsibilities to their residents by requiring Ms Lim and Mr Low to recuse themselves from all matters relating to, and oversight over, financial matters."; Debate arising.
- Extension of Sitting Pursuant to Standing Order 2(5)(d), Mr Speaker extended the sitting beyond the moment of interruption for a period of up to 30 minutes.
- 11 Governance of Aljunied-Hougang Town Council (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance) Debate resumed on Question –

"That this Parliament:

- affirms the vital importance of Members of Parliament maintaining high standards of integrity and accountability;
- (ii) notes the Judgment in Aljunied-Hougang Town Council & anor v Lim Swee Lian Sylvia and ors and anor suit [2019] SGHC 241, where, amongst other things, the Court held that:
 - (a) Ms Sylvia Lim ("Ms Lim") and Mr Low Thia Khiang ("Mr Low") had acted dishonestly and in breach of their fiduciary duties, and their conduct lacked integrity and candour; and
 - (b) Ms Lim and Mr Low were fully aware that their conduct was of questionable legality;
- (iii) notes that Ms Lim remains Vice-Chairman of Aljunied-Hougang Town Council, and Mr Low remains an elected member of Aljunied-Hougang Town Council; and
- (iv) calls on Aljunied-Hougang Town Council to discharge their responsibilities to their residents by requiring Ms Lim and Mr Low to recuse themselves from all matters relating to, and oversight over, financial matters.".

On Question put – a division was taken: Ayes 52, Noes 9, Abstentions 2.

Ayes Noes Abstention

Amrin Amin Chen Show Mao Ong, Anthea
Ang Wei Neng Goh Pei Siong, Daniel Theseira, Walter
Baey Yam Keng Lim, Sylvia
Chan Wei Ling, Cheryl Low Thia Khiang

Tan Lip Fong, Dennis

Chee Hong Tat Muhamad Faisal Abdul Manap
Cheng Li Hui Perera, Leon
Choo, Desmond Png Eng Huat
Darryl David Pritam Singh

Fu Hai Yien, Grace

Ayes - continued

Gan Kim Yong

Heng Chee How

Heng Swee Keat

Ho Wee San, Terence

Indranee Rajah

Janil Puthucheary

Khaw Boon Wan

Lee Bee Wah

Lee, Desmond

Lee Hsien Loong

Lim Biow Chuan

Lim Hng Kiang

Lim Swee Say

Lim Wee Kiak

Low Yen Ling

Mohamed Irshad

Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim

Murali Pillai

Ng Chee Meng

Ng Kok Kwang, Louis

Ong Teng Koon

Phua Lay Peng, Denise

Quay Siew Ching, Irene

Saktiandi Supaat

Seah Kian Peng

Shanmugam, K.

Sim Ann

Sitoh Yih Pin

Sun Xueling

Tan Chin Siong, Sam

Tan Chuan-Jin

Tan Soon Neo, Jessica

Tay Teck Guan, Patrick

Teo Ho Pin

Teo, Josephine

Tong Chun Fai, Edwin

Vivian Balakrishnan

Wong, Lawrence

Yaacob Ibrahim

Yam Ziming, Alex

Yee Chia Hsing

Yong Yik Chye, Melvin

Zainal Sapari

Resolved, "That this Parliament:

- (i) affirms the vital importance of Members of Parliament maintaining high standards of integrity and accountability;
- notes the Judgment in Aljunied-Hougang Town Council & anor v Lim Swee Lian Sylvia and ors and anor suit [2019] SGHC 241, where, amongst other things, the Court held that:

- (a) Ms Sylvia Lim ("Ms Lim") and Mr Low Thia Khiang ("Mr Low") had acted dishonestly and in breach of their fiduciary duties, and their conduct lacked integrity and candour; and
- (b) Ms Lim and Mr Low were fully aware that their conduct was of questionable legality;
- (iii) notes that Ms Lim remains Vice-Chairman of Aljunied-Hougang Town Council, and Mr Low remains an elected member of Aljunied-Hougang Town Council; and
- (iv) calls on Aljunied-Hougang Town Council to discharge their responsibilities to their residents by requiring Ms Lim and Mr Low to recuse themselves from all matters relating to, and oversight over, financial matters.".
- 12 Adjournment (Leader of the House) Resolved, "That Parliament do now adjourn to a date to be fixed.".

Adjourned at 7.10 pm

TAN CHUAN-JIN, Speaker

MEMORANDUM

Parliament stands adjourned to a date to be fixed.