



THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION AND LEGAL SERVICE
COMMISSION ACT 1956**

2020 REVISED EDITION

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Public Service Commission and Legal Service Commission Act 1956

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

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An Act to provide for the punishment of offences in connection with the exercise of the functions of the Public Service Commission and the Legal Service Commission, for the protection of the members of these Commissions, and for matters connected therewith.

[29 January 1957]

Short title

1. This Act is the Public Service Commission and Legal Service Commission Act 1956.

Offence to give false information to Commission

2. Any person who, in connection with an application by any person for employment or appointment in the public service or with any matter upon which it is the duty of the Public Service Commission or the Legal Service Commission (either of which shall be referred to in this Act as the Commission) to act, wilfully gives to the Commission or to any member of it or to any person or body of persons appointed

by the Commission to assist it in the exercise of its functions or the discharge of its duties any information which is false or misleading in any material particular 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 2 years or to both.

Communications of Commission to be privileged

3. No person shall in any legal proceedings be permitted or compelled to produce or disclose any communication, written or oral, which has taken place between the Commission or any member of it and the Government or the President or a Minister or the head of a department of the Government or any other person, or any communication between members of the Commission in exercise of or in connection with the exercise of the functions of the Commission, unless the President consents in writing to such production or disclosure.

[5/2018]

Publication and disclosure of information to unauthorised persons prohibited

4.—(1) No member of the Commission nor any other person shall, without the written permission of the President, publish or disclose to any unauthorised person or otherwise than in the course of the duty of the member or other person the contents or any part of the contents of any document, communication or information which has come to the knowledge of that member or other person in the course of the member's or other person's duties under any written law relating to the Commission in respect of any of the Commission's functions under any such law, and any person who knowingly acts in contravention of this subsection shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both.

[5/2018]

(2) If any person having possession of any information which to his knowledge has been disclosed in contravention of this section publishes or communicates that information to any other person otherwise than for the purpose of a prosecution under this Act, he shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both.

Protection of members of Commission

5. A member of the Commission shall have such and the like protection and privileges in case of any action or suit brought against him for any act done or omitted to be done in the execution of his duty as is by law given to any Magistrate acting in the execution of his office.

Offence to influence or attempt to influence Commission

6.—(1) Every person who otherwise than in the course of his duty directly or indirectly by himself or by any other person in any manner whatsoever influences or attempts to influence any decision of the Commission or any member of the Commission 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 2 years or to both.

(2) Nothing in this section prohibits any person from giving a certificate or testimonial to any applicant or candidate for any public office.

Consent of Public Prosecutor to prosecution

7. A prosecution under this Act shall not be instituted except by or with the consent of the Public Prosecutor or his deputy.

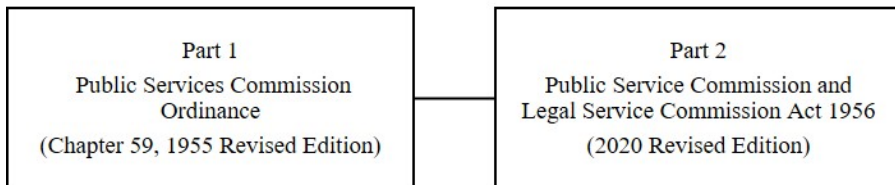
Application to personnel boards

8. The provisions of this Act shall apply to every personnel board established under Article 110D or 111AA of the Constitution and every member of such personnel board as the provisions apply to the Commission and its members; and any reference in this Act to any written law relating to the Commission in respect of any of the functions of the Commission shall be read as a reference to any written law relating to the personnel board established to exercise that function of the Commission.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION AND LEGAL SERVICE
COMMISSION ACT 1956

This Legislative History is a service provided by the Law Revision Commission on a best-efforts basis. It is not part of the Act.

PICTORIAL OVERVIEW OF PREDECESSOR ACTS



LEGISLATIVE HISTORY DETAILS

PART 1
PUBLIC SERVICES COMMISSION ORDINANCE
(CHAPTER 59, 1955 REVISED EDITION)

1. Ordinance 55 of 1949 — Public Services Commission Ordinance, 1949

Bill	:	G.N. No. S 317/1949
First Reading	:	28 July 1949
Second Reading	:	23 August 1949
Select Committee Report	:	Council Paper No. 154 of 1949
Third Reading	:	20 December 1949
Commencement	:	1 January 1951

2. 1955 Revised Edition — Public Services Commission Ordinance (Chapter 59)

Operation	:	1 July 1956
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PART 2
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION AND LEGAL SERVICE COMMISSION
ACT 1956
(2020 REVISED EDITION)

3. Ordinance 41 of 1956 — Public Service Commission Ordinance, 1956

Bill	:	Information not available
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First Reading	:	5 December 1956
Second and Third Readings	:	6 December 1956
Commencement	:	29 January 1957

4. G.N. No. S 293/1958 (S.I. 1956/1958) — Singapore (Constitution) Order in Council, 1958

Commencement	:	3 June 1959 (except sections 121(5) and 123)
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5. 1970 Revised Edition — Public Service Commission Act (Chapter 57)

Operation	:	1 April 1971
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6. 1985 Revised Edition — Public Service Commission Act (Chapter 259)

Operation	:	30 March 1987
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7. Act 18 of 1994 — Statutes (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 1994

(Amendments made by section 2 read with item (7) of the Schedule to the above Act)

Bill	:	25/1994
First Reading	:	25 July 1994
Second and Third Readings	:	25 August 1994
Commencement	:	1 October 1994 (section 2 read with item (7) of the Schedule)

8. Act 32 of 2007 — Public Service Commission (Amendment) Act 2007

Bill	:	19/2007
First Reading	:	21 May 2007
Second and Third Readings	:	16 July 2007
Commencement	:	1 November 2007

Note: The Public Service Commission Act was renamed as the Public Service Commission and Legal Service Commission Act by this Act.

9. 2014 Revised Edition — Public Service Commission and Legal Service Commission Act (Chapter 259)

Operation	:	31 August 2014
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10. Act 5 of 2018 — Public Sector (Governance) Act 2018

(Amendments made by section 92 of the above Act)

Bill	:	45/2017
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First Reading	:	6 November 2017
Second Reading	:	8 January 2018
Notice of Amendments	:	8 January 2018
Third Reading	:	8 January 2018
Commencement	:	1 April 2018 (section 92)

Abbreviations

C.P.	Council Paper
G.N. No. S (N.S.)	Government Notification Number Singapore (New Series)
G.N. No.	Government Notification Number
G.N. No. S	Government Notification Number Singapore
G.N. Sp. No. S	Government Notification Special Number Singapore
L.A.	Legislative Assembly
L.N.	Legal Notification (Federal/Malaysian Subsidiary Legislation)
M. Act	Malayan Act/Malaysia Act
M. Ordinance	Malayan Ordinance
Parl.	Parliament
S.S.G.G. (E) No.	Straits Settlements Government Gazette (Extraordinary) Number
S.S.G.G. No.	Straits Settlements Government Gazette Number