



# **THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE**

## **ADOPTION OF CHILDREN ACT 1939 (REPEALED)**

### **2020 REVISED EDITION**

This revised edition incorporates all amendments up to and including 1 December 2021 and comes into operation on 31 December 2021.

*Prepared and Published by*

THE LAW REVISION COMMISSION  
UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF  
THE REVISED EDITION OF THE LAWS ACT 1983

Informal Consolidation – version in force from 15/10/2024

# Adoption of Children Act 1939 (Repealed)

## ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

### Section

1. (Repealed)
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(This Act has been repealed.)

[29 December 1939]

### **(Repealed)**

**1.** (This Act was repealed by Act 20 of 2022 with effect from 15/10/2024).

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY  
ADOPTION OF CHILDREN ACT 1939 (REPEALED)

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

**1. Ordinance 18 of 1939 — Adoption of Children Ordinance, 1939**

Bill	:	G.N. No. 523/1939
First Reading	:	27 February 1939
Second Reading	:	24 April 1939
Third Reading	:	12 June 1939
Commencement	:	29 December 1939

**2. Ordinance 34 of 1952 — Adoption of Children (Amendment) Ordinance, 1952**

Bill	:	36/1952
First Reading	:	16 September 1952
Second and Third Readings	:	14 October 1952
Commencement	:	23 October 1952

**3. 1955 Revised Edition — Adoption of Children Ordinance (Chapter 36)**

Operation	:	1 July 1956
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**4. Ordinance 21 of 1959 — Adoption of Children (Amendment) Ordinance, 1959**

Bill	:	201/1959
First Reading	:	11 February 1959
Second and Third Readings	:	3 March 1959
Commencement	:	20 March 1959

**5. Ordinance 71 of 1959 — Transfer of Powers Ordinance, 1959**

(Amendments made by section 4 read with the First Schedule to the above Ordinance)

Bill	:	30/1959
First Reading	:	22 September 1959
Second and Third Readings	:	11 November 1959
Commencement	:	20 November 1959 (section 4 read with the First Schedule)

**6. 1970 Revised Edition — Adoption of Children Act (Chapter 43)**

Operation : 1 March 1971

**7. Act 9 of 1972 — Adoption of Children (Amendment) Act, 1972**

Bill : 24/1971  
 First Reading : 2 December 1971  
 Second Reading : 7 March 1972  
 Notice of Amendments : 7 March 1972  
 Third Reading : 7 March 1972  
 Commencement : 15 May 1972

**8. Act 3 of 1985 — Adoption of Children (Amendment) Act 1985**

Bill : 1/1985  
 First Reading : 4 March 1985  
 Second and Third Readings : 29 March 1985  
 Commencement : 10 May 1985

**9. 1985 Revised Edition — Adoption of Children Act (Chapter 4)**

Operation : 30 March 1987

**10. Act 11 of 1987 — Civil Law (Amendment) Act 1987**  
(Amendments made by section 5(2) of the above Act)

Bill : 1/1987  
 First Reading : 26 January 1987  
 Second and Third Readings : 4 March 1987  
 Commencement : 1 May 1987 (section 5(2))

**11. Act 42 of 2005 — Statutes (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Act 2005**  
(Amendments made by section 7 read with item (3) of the Fifth Schedule to the above Act)

Bill : 30/2005  
 First Reading : 17 October 2005  
 Second and Third Readings : 21 November 2005  
 Commencement : 1 January 2006 (section 7 read with item (3) of the Fifth Schedule)

**12. 2012 Revised Edition — Adoption of Children Act (Chapter 4)**

Operation : 31 March 2012

**13. Act 27 of 2014 — Family Justice Act 2014**

(Amendments made by section 50 of the above Act)

Bill : 21/2014

First Reading : 8 July 2014

Second Reading : 4 August 2014

Notice of Amendments : 4 August 2014

Third Reading : 4 August 2014

Commencement : 1 October 2014 (section 50(a), (b) and (e))  
1 January 2015 (section 50(c) and (d))

**14. Act 40 of 2019 — Supreme Court of Judicature (Amendment) Act 2019**

(Amendments made by section 28(1) read with item 3 of the Schedule to the above Act)

Bill : 32/2019

First Reading : 7 October 2019

Second Reading : 5 November 2019

Notice of Amendments : 5 November 2019

Third Reading : 5 November 2019

Commencement : 2 January 2021 (section 28(1) read with item 3 of the Schedule)

**15. 2020 Revised Edition — Adoption of Children Act 1939**

Operation : 31 December 2021

**16. Act 17 of 2021 — Registration of Births and Deaths Act 2021**

Bill : 13/2021

First Reading : 10 May 2021

Second and Third Readings : 6 July 2021

Commencement : 29 May 2022

**17. Act 20 of 2022 — Adoption of Children Act 2022**

(Amendments made by the above Act)

Bill : 12/2022

First Reading	:	4 April 2022
Second and Third Readings	:	9 May 2022
Commencement	:	15 October 2024

### Abbreviations

(updated on 29 August 2022)

G.N.	Gazette Notification
G.N. Sp.	Gazette Notification (Special Supplement)
L.A.	Legislative Assembly
L.N.	Legal Notification (Federal/Malaysian)
M.	Malaya/Malaysia (including Federated Malay States, Malayan Union, Federation of Malaya and Federation of Malaysia)
Parl.	Parliament
S	Subsidiary Legislation
S.I.	Statutory Instrument (United Kingdom)
S (N.S.)	Subsidiary Legislation (New Series)
S.S.G.G.	Straits Settlements Government Gazette
S.S.G.G. (E)	Straits Settlements Government Gazette (Extraordinary)