



REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

ACTS SUPPLEMENT

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The following Act was passed by Parliament on 23rd March 2009 and assented to by the President on 7th April 2009:—

REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

No. 13 of 2009.

I assent.

(LS)

S R NATHAN,
President.
7th April 2009.

An Act to amend the Films Act (Chapter 107 of the 1998 Revised Edition).

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 may be cited as the Films (Amendment) Act 2009 and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

Amendment of section 2

2. Section 2 of the Films Act is amended —

- (a) by inserting, immediately after the words “any matter which” in subsection (2)(a), the words “, in the opinion of the Board,”;
- (b) by deleting the words “either partisan or biased references to or comments on any political matter, including but” in subsection (2)(b) and substituting the words “references to or comments on any political matter which, in the opinion of the Board, are either partisan or biased; and “political matter” includes but is”; and
- (c) by deleting subsection (3) and substituting the following subsection:

“(3) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), none of the following films shall be regarded for the purposes of this Act as a party political film:

- (a) a film which is made solely for the purpose of reporting of news by a broadcasting service licensed under any written law;
- (b) a film which is made solely for the purpose of informing or educating persons on the procedures and polling times for any election or national referendum in Singapore;
- (c) a film which records live the whole or a material proportion of any performance, assembly of persons or procession that is held in accordance with the law and that does not depict any event, person or situation in a dramatic way;
- (d) a film designed to provide a record of an event or occasion that is held in accordance with the law for those who took part in the event or occasion or are connected with those who did so;

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- (e) a documentary film without any animation and composed wholly of an accurate account depicting actual events, persons (deceased or otherwise) or situations, but not a film —
 - (i) wholly or substantially based on unscripted or “reality” type programmes; or
 - (ii) that depicts those events, persons or situations in a dramatic way;
 - (f) a film without animation and dramatic elements —
 - (i) composed wholly of a political party’s manifesto or declaration of policies or ideology on the basis of which candidates authorised by the political party to stand will seek to be elected at a parliamentary election; and
 - (ii) made by or on behalf of that political party; and
 - (g) a film without animation and dramatic elements —
 - (i) composed wholly of a candidate’s declaration of policies or ideology on the basis of which the candidate will seek to be elected at a parliamentary or presidential election; and
 - (ii) made by or on behalf of that candidate.”.

New section 4A

3. The Films Act is amended by inserting, immediately after section 4, the following section:

“Advisory committees

4A.—(1) The Minister may appoint one or more advisory committees to provide advice to the Board with regard to the performance of any of its functions in relation to any film.

(2) Before making any decision under this Act in relation to a film and for the purpose of forming an opinion on which to base such decision, the Board may consult with the relevant advisory committee in respect of the film but, in making such decision, shall not be bound by such consultation.”.

Amendment of section 26

4. Section 26 of the Films Act is amended by deleting subsection (1) and substituting the following subsection:

“(1) On receipt of an appeal under section 24, the Committee of Appeal may make an order —

(a) dismissing the appeal and confirming the decision of the Board; or

(b) reversing or varying the decision of the Board,

including making such order as it thinks fit in regard to the approval for exhibition of any film which is the subject of appeal, the excision or retention of any part of any such film, and the classification of any film.”.
