



**THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE**

**JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS (REGULATION OF REPORTS)  
ACT**

**(CHAPTER 149)**

**(Original Enactment: Ordinance 65 of 1960)**

**REVISED EDITION 2013**

(30th November 2013)

*Prepared and Published by*

THE LAW REVISION COMMISSION  
UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF  
THE REVISED EDITION OF THE LAWS ACT (CHAPTER 275)

PRINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT PRINTER, SINGAPORE

2013



# Judicial Proceedings (Regulation of Reports) Act

## ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

### Section

1. Short title
  2. Restriction on publication of reports
  3. Penalty
  4. Consent of Public Prosecutor
  5. Saving
- 

An Act to regulate the publication of reports of judicial proceedings in such a manner as to prevent injury to public morals.

[9th June 1961]

### **Short title**

1. This Act may be cited as the Judicial Proceedings (Regulation of Reports) Act.

### **Restriction on publication of reports**

2.—(1) It shall not be lawful to print or publish, or cause or procure to be printed or published —

- (a) in relation to any judicial proceedings any indecent matter or indecent medical, surgical or physiological details being matter or details the publication of which would be calculated to injure public morals; or
- (b) in relation to any judicial proceedings for divorce, dissolution of marriage, nullity of marriage, judicial separation or restitution of conjugal rights, any particulars other than the following:
  - (i) the names, addresses and occupations of the parties and witnesses;

- (ii) a concise statement of the charges, the defences and countercharges in support of which evidence has been given;
- (iii) submissions on any point of law arising in the course of the proceedings and the decision of the court on the submissions; and
- (iv) the decision of the court and any observations made by the court in giving that decision.

(2) Nothing in subsection (1)(b) shall be held to permit the publication of anything contrary to subsection (1)(a).

### **Penalty**

3. Any person who acts in contravention of section 2 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:

Provided that no person, other than the proprietor, editor, printer or publisher, shall be liable to be convicted under this Act.

### **Consent of Public Prosecutor**

4. No prosecution for an offence under this Act shall be commenced without the consent of the Public Prosecutor.

[15/2010]

### **Saving**

5. Nothing in this Act shall apply to —

- (a) the printing of any pleading, transcript of evidence or other document for use in connection with any judicial proceedings or the communication thereof to persons concerned in the proceedings;
- (b) the printing or publishing of any notice or report in pursuance of the directions of the court; or
- (c) the printing or publishing of any matter in any separate volume or part of any bona fide series of law reports which do not form part of any other publication and consists solely

of reports of proceedings in courts of law, or in any publication of a technical character bona fide intended for circulation among members of the legal or medical profession.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY  
JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS (REGULATION OF REPORTS) ACT  
(CHAPTER 149)

This Legislative History is provided for the convenience of users of the Judicial Proceedings (Regulation of Reports) Act. It is not part of the Act.

**1. Ordinance 65 of 1960 — Judicial Proceedings (Regulation of Reports) Ordinance 1960**

Date of First Reading : 16 November 1960  
(Bill No. 103/60 published on  
19 November 1960)

Date of Second and Third Readings : 29 November 1960

Date of commencement : 9 June 1961

**2. 1970 Revised Edition — Judicial Proceedings (Regulation of Reports) Act (Chapter 252)**

Date of operation : 31 August 1971

**3. 1985 Revised Edition — Judicial Proceedings (Regulation of Reports) Act (Chapter 149)**

Date of operation : 30 March 1987

**4. Act 15 of 2010 — Criminal Procedure Code 2010**  
(Consequential amendments made to Act by)

Date of First Reading : 26 April 2010  
(Bill No. 11/2010 published on  
26 April 2010)

Date of Second and Third Readings : 19 May 2010

Date of commencement : 2 January 2011

**5. 2013 Revised Edition — Judicial Proceedings (Regulation of Reports) Act (Chapter 149)**

Date of operation : 30 November 2013