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**PUBLIC ORDER ACT 2009
(ACT 15 OF 2009)**

**PUBLIC ORDER
(EXEMPT ASSEMBLIES AND PROCESSIONS)
(AMENDMENT) ORDER 2011**

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 46 of the Public Order Act 2009, the Minister for Home Affairs hereby makes the following Order:

Citation and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Public Order (Exempt Assemblies and Processions) (Amendment) Order 2011 and shall come into operation on 14th March 2011.

Amendment of First Schedule

2. The First Schedule to the Public Order (Exempt Assemblies and Processions) Order 2009 (G.N. No. S 489/2009) is amended —

(a) by inserting, immediately after the words “A public assembly” in item 4, the words “(other than an election meeting within the meaning of the Public Order (Election Meetings) Regulations 2009 (G.N. No. S 486/2009)) that is”; and

(b) by inserting, immediately after item 11, the following items:

“12.—(1) A public assembly held on the day of nomination at an election under the Parliamentary Elections Act (Cap. 218) around a place of nomination for that election —

(a) to show support —

(i) for any person or group of persons seeking nomination as a candidate or group of candidates at that election; or

(ii) for any candidate or group of candidates in that election at or about the time the Returning Officer or an Assistant Returning Officer is to declare a candidate or group of candidates to be elected under section 33(1) of that Act;

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- (b) at which only placards, banners, flags, posters, photographs, signs, writings or other visible representations containing the image, symbol or logo of any candidate or group of candidates at that election are displayed or exhibited after the close of nomination proceedings; and
 - (c) before and during which no other placard, banner, flag, poster, photograph, film, sign, writing or other visible representation is displayed or exhibited.

(2) In this item and item 13, “candidate”, “group”, “Returning Officer”, “Assistant Returning Officer”, “day of nomination” and “place of nomination” shall have the same meanings, respectively, as in the Parliamentary Elections Act (Cap. 218).

13. A public assembly held on the day of nomination at an election under the Parliamentary Elections Act after the close of nomination proceedings at such part within a place of nomination for that election as the Returning Officer or an Assistant Returning Officer may designate —

- (a) comprising the following persons only:
 - (i) the candidates in an election (whether contested or uncontested) under the Parliamentary Elections Act;
 - (ii) each candidate’s or group’s proposer, seconder and assentors;
 - (iii) the Returning Officer or any Assistant Returning Officer; and
 - (iv) any other person entitled under that Act to be present at the nomination proceedings at the place of nomination; and
- (b) at which speeches or addresses to a public assembly referred to in item 12(1) are made —
 - (i) with the prior approval of the Returning Officer or Assistant Returning Officer, as the case may be, by the following (and no others):
 - (A) in the case of an election in a group representation constituency — one or more candidates from the group of candidates declared to be elected under section 33(1) of the Parliamentary Elections Act or, in the case of a contested election, one or more candidates from each group of candidates standing for election, in the order determined by the Returning Officer or Assistant Returning Officer, as the case may be; or

(B) in the case of an election in any other constituency — the candidate declared to be elected under section 33(1) of the Parliamentary Elections Act (Cap. 218) or, in the case of a contested election, each candidate standing for election in the order determined by the Returning Officer or Assistant Returning Officer, as the case may be;

- (ii) using such equipment as is authorised by the Returning Officer or an Assistant Returning Officer, as the case may be; and
- (iii) lasting not more than such duration for each candidate or, in the case of an election in a group representation constituency, for each group in total, as the Returning Officer or an Assistant Returning Officer may fix before the start of the speeches or addresses.

14.—(1) A public assembly held on nomination day at an election under the Presidential Elections Act (Cap. 240A) around a nomination place for that election —

- (a) to show support —
 - (i) for any person seeking nomination as a candidate at that election; or
 - (ii) for any candidate in that election at or about the time the Returning Officer or an Assistant Returning Officer is to declare a candidate to be elected under section 15(1) of that Act;
- (b) at which only placards, banners, flags, posters, photographs, signs, writings or other visible representations containing the image, symbol or logo of any candidate at that election are displayed or exhibited after the close of nomination proceedings; and
- (c) before and during which no other placard, banner, flag, poster, photograph, film, sign, writing or other visible representation is displayed or exhibited.

(2) In this item and item 15, “candidate”, “Returning Officer”, “nomination day” and “nomination place” shall have the same meanings, respectively, as in the Presidential Elections Act.

15. A public assembly held on nomination day at an election under the Presidential Elections Act after the close of nomination proceedings at such part within the nomination place for that election as the Returning Officer may designate —

- (a) comprising the following persons only:
 - (i) the candidates in an election (whether contested or uncontested) under the Presidential Elections Act;

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- (ii) each candidate's proposer, seconder and assentors;
 - (iii) the Returning Officer; and
 - (iv) any other person entitled under that Act to be present at the nomination proceedings at the nomination place; and
- (b) at which speeches or addresses to a public assembly referred to in item 14(1) are made —
- (i) with the prior approval of the Returning Officer by the following (and no others):
 - (A) in the case of a contested election, each candidate standing for election in the order determined by the Returning Officer; or
 - (B) the candidate declared to be elected under section 15(1) of the Presidential Elections Act (Cap. 240A);
 - (ii) using such equipment as is authorised by the Returning Officer; and
 - (iii) lasting not more than such duration for each candidate as the Returning Officer may fix before the start of the speeches or addresses.”.

Amendment of Second Schedule

3. The Second Schedule to the Public Order (Exempt Assemblies and Processions) Order 2009 is amended by inserting, immediately after item 4, the following items:

“5.—(1) A public procession on the day of nomination at an election under the Parliamentary Elections Act (Cap. 218) —

- (a) comprising one or more persons moving substantially as a body of persons in succession starting —
 - (i) before the close of nomination proceedings and from a place of assembly within the fenced compound around a place of nomination for that election, and proceeding by a common route within that compound;
 - (ii) before the close of nomination proceedings and from a place of assembly outside the fenced compound around a place of nomination for that election, and proceeding by a common route that is the nearest route (ordinarily about 200 metres) used to travel to an entrance or exit of that compound; or
 - (iii) after the close of nomination proceedings and from the fenced compound around a place of nomination for that election, and proceeding by a common route that is the nearest route (ordinarily about 200 metres) to any place outside that compound;

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- (b) the purpose of which is to show support —
- (i) for any person or group of persons seeking nomination as a candidate or group of candidates at that election; or
 - (ii) for any candidate or group of candidates in that election at or about the time the Returning Officer or an Assistant Returning Officer declares or is to declare a candidate or group of candidates to be elected under section 33(1) of that Act;
- (c) before, during and after which none of the following is carried out by any organiser or participant of the procession:
- (i) the display or exhibition of any placard, banner, flag, poster, photograph, film, sign, writing or other visible representation;
 - (ii) singing; or the playing of any radio or other musical equipment, any drum, cymbal, gong or other musical instrument;
 - (iii) the playing of any radio or other musical equipment, any drum, cymbal, gong or other musical instrument;
 - (iv) the shouting of any slogan, jingle or other advertising technique designed to have, or likely to have, the effect of promoting a political party, candidate or person seeking nomination as a candidate at that election instead of communicating a factual message;
 - (v) the use of any loudspeaker; and
 - (vi) the use of threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour that is threatening, abusive or insulting;
- (d) at which no organiser or participant of the procession, from the first assembly of the procession to the time it disbands, stops anywhere to make a speech or give an interview; and
- (e) the conduct of which does not cause or result in obstruction or inconvenience on any public road, bridge, landing place, or in any other public place.

(2) In this item, “candidate”, “group”, “Returning Officer”, “Assistant Returning Officer”, “day of nomination” and “place of nomination” shall have the same meanings, respectively, as in the Parliamentary Elections Act (Cap. 218).

6.—(1) A public procession on nomination day at an election under the Presidential Elections Act (Cap. 240A) —

- (a) comprising one or more persons moving substantially as a body of persons in succession starting —
 - (i) before the close of nomination proceedings and from a place of assembly within the fenced compound around a nomination place for that election, and proceeding by a common route within that compound;

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- (ii) before the close of nomination proceedings and from a place of assembly outside the fenced compound around a nomination place for that election, and proceeding by a common route that is the nearest route (ordinarily about 200 metres) used to travel to an entrance or exit of that compound; or
 - (iii) after the close of nomination proceedings and from the fenced compound around a nomination place for that election, and proceeding by a common route that is the nearest route (ordinarily about 200 metres) to any place outside that compound;
- (b) the purpose of which is to show support —
- (i) for any person seeking nomination as a candidate at that election; or
 - (ii) for any candidate in an election at or about the time the Returning Officer is to declare a candidate to be elected to the office of President under section 15(1) of that Act;
- (c) before, during and after which none of the following is carried out by any organiser or participant of the procession:
- (i) the display or exhibition of any placard, banner, flag, poster, photograph, film, sign, writing or other visible representation;
 - (ii) singing; or the playing of any radio or other musical equipment, any drum, cymbal, gong or other musical instrument;
 - (iii) the playing of any radio or other musical equipment, any drum, cymbal, gong or other musical instrument;
 - (iv) the shouting of any slogan, jingle or other advertising technique designed to have, or likely to have, the effect of promoting a candidate or person seeking nomination as a candidate at that election instead of communicating a factual message;
 - (v) the use of any loudspeaker; and
 - (vi) the use of threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour that is threatening, abusive or insulting;
- (d) at which no organiser or participant of the procession, from the first assembly of the procession to the time it disbands, stops anywhere to make a speech or give an interview; and
- (e) the conduct of which does not cause or result in obstruction or inconvenience on any public road, bridge, landing place, or in any other public place.

(2) In this item, “candidate”, “Returning Officer”, “nomination day” and “nomination place” shall have the same meanings, respectively, as in the Presidential Elections Act (Cap. 240A).”.

Made this 11th day of March 2011.

BENNY LIM
*Permanent Secretary,
Ministry of Home Affairs,
Singapore.*

[MHA 44/5/004 TF1; AG/LLRD/SL/257A/2010/1 Vol. 1]