

## PRESS RELEASE

### AMENDMENTS TO SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION UNDER PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS ACT TAKE EFFECT FROM 1 APR 2019

Amendments to subsidiary legislation have been made, following amendments to the Parliamentary Elections Act in Oct 2018, to update and enhance election processes for Parliamentary elections. (The full list of subsidiary legislation, which comes into effect on 1 Apr 2019, is at [Annex A](#).)

2 The key amendments are as follows:

(a) Application form for the Certificate of the Malay Community Committee and the Certificate of the Indian & Other Minority Communities Committee

Every group of persons who wishes to stand for election in a group representation constituency is required to produce a Certificate of the Malay Community Committee or a Certificate of the Indian and Other Minority Communities Committee to the Returning Officer on Nomination Day. The application form is revised for the person to provide any additional information that the person thinks is useful to support his or her application (e.g. the person's involvement in the community) via a statutory declaration.

(b) Processes at Polling Stations

The number of polling agents who may enter a polling station is made proportionate to the number of voters allotted to the polling station to give more flexibility to the layout of polling stations for efficient operation. This ties in with the introduction of electronic voter registration (or e-registration), which will no longer require polling places to be demarcated in each polling station. There is no decrease to the number of polling agents per polling station, as we will be keeping to 1 polling agent per candidate/group of candidates for every 1,000 voters allotted to vote at a polling station.

As with Presidential elections, the types of information to be included in the notice to voters displayed outside polling stations is set out in the subsidiary legislation. This includes the candidates' photographs<sup>1</sup>, and the name of the candidates' political party (if any) specified in English, Malay, Chinese and Tamil. The guidance to voters displayed outside polling stations is re-

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<sup>1</sup> Where the photograph of a candidate is not included on the ballot papers for the election (by reason of non-compliance), the space on the ballot paper for the candidate's photograph and the notice outside the polling station will indicate that there is no photograph of the candidate.

crafted in simpler language for easier reading by the general public (see Annex B).

(c) Ballot Paper

The new ballot paper format has a clearly demarcated area for a voter to mark his or her vote for a candidate or a group of candidates. Only markings made within the area demarcated on the ballot paper will be considered by the Returning Officer for more efficient adjudication during counting of votes.

(d) Overseas Voting

Overseas voting processes will be aligned with the changes to voting processes in Singapore (e.g. the new simplified guidance to voters for polling stations in Singapore will also be used at overseas polling stations).

ISSUED BY  
ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT  
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

1 Apr 2019

**List of Subsidiary Legislation which comes into effect on 1 Apr 2019**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Title of Subsidiary Legislation under Parliamentary Elections Act</b>
1	Parliamentary Elections Act (Amendment of First Schedule) (No. 2) Regulations 2019
2	Parliamentary Elections Act (Amendment of Second Schedule) Order 2019
3	Parliamentary Elections (Polling Stations) Regulations 2019
4	Parliamentary Elections (Overseas Voting) (Amendment) Regulations 2019
5	Parliamentary Elections (Malay Community Committee) (Amendment) Regulations 2019
6	Parliamentary Elections (Indian and Other Minority Communities Committee) (Amendment) Regulations 2019
7	Parliamentary Elections (Composition of Offences) (Amendment) Regulations 2019

**GUIDANCE TO VOTERS  
(FOR DISPLAY OUTSIDE POLLING STATIONS)**

1. When you are given a ballot paper, go to a polling booth.
2. Mark on your ballot paper an “X” in the empty box for the candidate, or the group of candidates (in the case of a group representation constituency), you are voting for.
  - (a) Do not make any other mark on your ballot paper, or your vote may not be counted.
  - (b) If you make a mistake when marking your ballot paper, return it to the presiding officer and ask for another ballot paper.
3. After marking your ballot paper, fold it in half and drop it into the ballot box. Do not let anyone see your vote.
4. Leave the polling station immediately after dropping your ballot paper into the ballot box.