

CHARITIES ACT AMENDMENTS

4 KEY POINTS CHARITIES SHOULD KNOW

2 ENHANCED SAFEGUARDS FOR PUBLIC TRUST

- The COC can suspend for up to 2 years:

- i. Unfit individuals from a charity, with the consent of the Attorney-General, following an inquiry.
- ii. Improper fund-raising appeals pending the completion of investigations.



4 ELECTRONIC FILING OF ANNUAL SUBMISSIONS

- Regulations will be made to require charities to file annual submissions and applications via the Charity Portal.



1 BETTER PROTECTION FOR CHARITIES

- New criteria for disqualification:

- i. Convictions for terrorism, terrorism financing or money laundering offences.
- ii. Removal by the COC from any capacity following an inquiry.



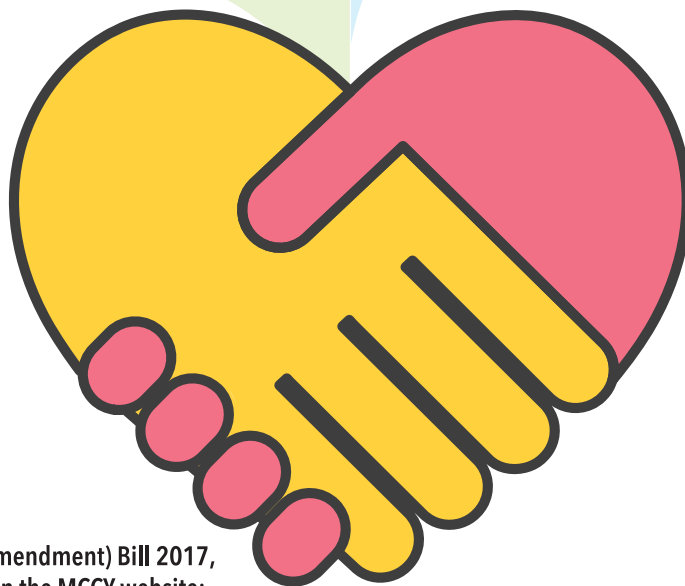
- Disqualified person cannot hold a key position in another entity which is a member or board member of a charity.
- A person will not be disqualified or removed due to a spent conviction.

3 CLARIFIED "FUND-RAISING APPEAL" DEFINITION

- All charitable fund-raising appeals in Singapore, whether online or offline, for local or foreign purposes, are regulated.



Note: The amendments in points 1 and 2 came into effect in April 2018. The amendments in points 3 and 4 will progressively be brought into effect from 2H 2018.



For more info on the Charities (Amendment) Bill 2017, read Minister Grace Fu's speech on the MCCY website:



<https://goo.gl/dj1Tva>