

A BILL

i n t i t u l e d

An Act to amend the National Registration Act 1959.

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ENACTED by the Parliament of Malaysia as follows:

Short title and commencement

1. (1) This Act may be cited as the National Registration (Amendment) Act 2025.

(2) This Act comes into operation on a date to be appointed by the Minister by notification in the *Gazette*.

Amendment of section 2

2. The National Registration Act 1959 [*Act 78*], which is referred to as the “principal Act” in this Act, is amended in section 2 by inserting before the definition of “Director General” the following definition:

‘ “biometric data” means any personal data resulting from technical processing relating to the physical, physiological or behavioural characteristics of a person;’.

Amendment of section 6**3.** Subsection 6(2) of the principal Act is amended—

(a) by substituting for paragraph (d) the following paragraph:

“(d) the taking and recording of biometric data of persons required to be registered and the conditions which may be imposed on the taking and recording of biometric data;”;

(b) in paragraph (e), by inserting after the word “thereon” the words “, and their use”; and

(c) by deleting paragraph (j).

New section 6A**4.** The principal Act is amended by inserting after section 6 the following section:**“Compounding of offences**

6A. (1) The Minister may, with the approval of the Public Prosecutor, make regulations prescribing—

(a) any offence under any regulations made under this Act as an offence which may be compounded; and

(b) the method and procedure for compounding such offence.

(2) The Director General may, with the consent in writing of the Public Prosecutor, at any time before a prosecution is being instituted, compound any offence prescribed as an offence which may be compounded by making a written offer to the person reasonably suspected of having committed the offence to compound the offence upon payment to the Director General of a sum of money not exceeding fifty per centum of the amount of the maximum fine to which the person would have been liable to if he had been convicted of the offence, within such time as may be specified in the written offer.

(3) An offer under subsection (2) may be made at any time after the offence has been committed but before any prosecution for it has been instituted.

(4) If the amount specified in the offer is not paid within the time specified in the offer, or such extended time as the Director General may grant, prosecution for the offence may be instituted at any time after that against the person to whom the offer was made.

(5) Where an offence has been compounded under this section—

(a) no prosecution shall be instituted in respect of the offence against the person to whom the offer to compound was made; and

(b) any document or thing seized in connection with the offence may be released by the Director General, subject to such terms as the Director General thinks fit.

(6) All sums of money received by the Director General under this section shall be paid into and form part of the Federal Consolidated Fund.”.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This Bill seeks to amend the National Registration Act 1959 (“Act 78”).

2. *Clause 1* contains the short title and the provision on the commencement of the proposed Act.

3. *Clause 2* seeks to amend section 2 of Act 78 to introduce a new definition of “biometric data”.

4. *Clause 3* seeks to amend subsection 6(2) of Act 78 to improve the power of the Minister to make regulations.

Subclause 3(a) seeks to substitute paragraph 6(2)(d) of Act 78 to empower the Minister to make regulations to provide for the taking and recording of biometric data and the conditions which may be imposed on the taking and recording of biometric data.

Subclause 3(b) seeks to amend paragraph 6(2)(e) of Act 78 to empower the Minister to make regulations to provide for the control of the use of and information on identity cards.

Subclause 3(c) seeks to delete paragraph 6(2)(j) of Act 78 that empowers the Minister to prescribe maximum charges for the taking of photographs since charges are not imposed for the taking of photographs.

5. *Clause 4* seeks to introduce a new section 6A into Act 78 to empower the Minister, with the approval of the Public Prosecutor, to make regulations prescribing compoundable offences as well as the method and procedure for compounding such offences. This *clause* also seeks to empower the Director General to compound the compoundable offences with the consent in writing of the Public Prosecutor.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This Bill will not involve the Government in any extra financial expenditure.

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