
Second Session Fifth Parliament Republic of
Trinidad and Tobago



REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Act No. 14 of 1997

[L.S.]

AN ACT to amend the Registration of Clubs Act,
Chap. 21:01

[Assented to 29th July, 1997]

ENACTED by the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago as Enactment
follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the Registration of Clubs Short title
(Amendment) Act, 1997.

New sections 14A and
14B inserted
Chap. 21:01

2. The Registration of Clubs Act is amended by inserting the following new sections:

“Striking club
off Register
on ground of
discrimina-
tion

14A. (1) A Licensing Committee may, on complaint made in writing by a person to whom this section applies, make an order directing the club to be struck off the Register if it is satisfied by proof on oath before it that the conduct of any trade or business on premises to which the public has access is contrary to the provisions of section 14B.

(2) Where a complaint has been made against a licensee under subsection (1), the Chairman of the Committee shall summon the licensee to appear before the Committee on the date set for the hearing of the complaint to respond to the allegations made against him and the licensee may either represent himself or be represented by an attorney-at-law.

(3) For the removal of doubt it is hereby declared that subject to subsection (4) nothing in this section shall be treated as having application to a members' club registered under this Act.

(4) Subject to subsection (5), where a members' club proposes to give the public, or any section of the public, access to the whole or any part of its premises, on any special occasion, it shall first obtain the permission of a Magistrate and—

- (a) any trade or business conducted thereon; or
- (b) where the club is used for purposes other than that of a members' club, as defined in section 2 of this Act,

such trade, business or purpose shall be done or carried out in such a manner so as not to contravene section 14B.

(5) For the purposes of subsection (4) the members' club shall pay a fee of one thousand dollars.

(6) A members' club which contravenes the provisions of subsection (5) is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine of five thousand dollars.

(7) This section applies to any person who has been discriminated against in any manner, including a refusal of admission or service or refusal of access to facilities on any licensed premises, on the ground of that person's race, colour, religion or sex.

(8) The Minister may, by Order, subject to affirmative resolution of Parliament, increase the grounds on which a person may claim to have been discriminated against.

Discrimination on club premises

14B. (1) Discrimination on premises of a club registered in pursuance of this Act by the owner or occupier or by the members of a committee appointed by the members or their servants or agents or by their associates on the ground of race, colour, religion or sex is hereby prohibited.

(2) In this section and in section 14A—

“associates” means any individual, partner or company having a pecuniary interest or otherwise concerned with the carrying on of

any business on the premises of the club in respect of which there is a complaint under section 14A;

“discrimination” means any inequality of treatment that is less favourable than that accorded to any person or group of persons and which is indicative of an intention to deal with that person or group of persons in a manner that is different from that in which the majority of other persons or a substantial number of such persons on any one occasion are treated or dealt with in that respect.

(3) For the purpose of this Act, segregating a person whether by place or position or by time or occasion from other persons on the ground of race, colour, religion or sex is deemed to be discrimination.

Striking
club off
Register on
ground of
causing a
public
annoyance

14c. (1) A Licensing Committee may, on complaint made in writing by an aggrieved person, make an order directing the club to be struck off the Register if it is satisfied by proof of oath before it that the conduct of any trade or business on premises to which this Act applies has caused annoyance to persons in the vicinity of that trade or business by virtue of excessive noise emanating from electronic or other devices.

(2) Where a complaint has been made against a licensee under subsection (1), the Chairman of the Committee shall summon the licensee to appear before the Committee on the date set for the hearing of the complaint to respond to the

allegations made against him and the licensee may either represent himself or be represented by an attorney-at-law.

Appeals
from order
of
Licensing
Committee

14D. (1) Any person dissatisfied with any order of the Licensing Committee under section 14A or section 14C may appeal against such order to the Court of Appeal.

Chap. 4:20

(2) The procedure in respect of any appeal under this section shall be such as is laid down in the Summary Courts Act.

(3) In this section "any person dissatisfied" means a person referred to in sections 14A(7), 14B(1) and 14C."

3. The Registration of Clubs Act is amended in section 22 by renumbering paragraph (g) as paragraph (h) and inserting a new paragraph (g) as follows: Section 22 amended

"(g) generally for the more effective carrying out of this Act,".

Passed in the House of Representatives this 6th day of June, 1997.

J. SAMPSON
Clerk of the House

Passed in the Senate this 24th day of June, 1997.

N. COX
Clerk of the Senate

Senate amendments agreed to by the House of Representatives this 11th day of July, 1997.

J. SAMPSON
Clerk of the House