

ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Bill

Bill No. 17/2024.

Read the first time on 7 May 2024.

A BILL

intituled

An Act to amend the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004 and certain other Acts under the purview of the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority to enhance their business registry and regulatory system.

Be it enacted by the President with the advice and consent of the Parliament of Singapore, as follows:

Short title and commencement

1. This Act is the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024 and comes into operation on a date that the Minister appoints by notification in the *Gazette*.

PART 1

AMENDMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND CORPORATE REGULATORY AUTHORITY ACT 2004

Amendment of section 6

2. In the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004 (called in this Part the ACRA Act), in section 6 —

(a) in subsection (1), replace paragraph (c) with —

“(c) to establish and administer a repository of information and documents relating to business entities and accounting entities and to provide access to such information and documents in accordance with this Act, the scheduled laws and the disclosure framework;” and

(b) replace subsection (4) with —

“(4) In subsection (1) —

“accounting entity” has the meaning given by section 35A;

“disclosure framework” and “scheduled law” have the meanings given by section 26.”.

Amendment of Part 6A heading

3. In the ACRA Act, in Part 6A, in the Part heading, replace “, REGISTERED FILING AGENTS AND REGISTERED QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS” with “AND DATA FRAMEWORK”.

Amendment of section 26

4. In the ACRA Act, in section 26 —

(a) before the definition of “Chief Executive”, insert —

““authorised information service provider” means any person authorised by the Registrar or the Authority to provide information services to the public using information provided by the Registrar or the Authority;”;

(b) after the definition of “copy”, insert —

““disclosure framework” means the disclosure framework set out in the Sixth Schedule;”;

(c) after the definition of “malfunction”, insert —

““prescribed entity” means any entity prescribed under section 35 for the purposes of section 30A;

“prescribed public agency” means any public agency prescribed under section 35 for the purposes of section 30A;

“public agency” means a public officer, an Organ of State or a ministry or department of the Government, or a body or authority established by or under any public Act to perform or discharge a public function, or a member, an officer or employee, or any department thereof;”;

(d) after the definition of “scheduled Act”, insert —

““scheduled law” means any scheduled Act or Fifth Schedule Act;”.

Amendment of section 27

5. In the ACRA Act, in section 27 —

(a) in subsection (1)(b), after “issue”, insert “, give or send any information or”;

(b) in subsection (1)(b), after “under”, insert “this Act,”;

(c) in subsection (1), after paragraph (c), insert —

“(ca) to facilitate the implementation of this Part;” and

5 (d) in subsection (3), after paragraph (a), insert —

“(aa) all information and documents required to be submitted to the Registrar using a form mentioned in section 28(1A) have been submitted as required;”.

10 **Amendment of section 28**

6. In the ACRA Act, in section 28, after subsection (1), insert —

“(1A) Where a person carries out a transaction with the Registrar using the electronic transaction system, the Registrar may require the person to use a form on the electronic transaction system which requires the submission of information or documents for the transaction or for any other purpose under this Act or a scheduled law to the Registrar.”.

New section 28A

7. In the ACRA Act, after section 28, insert —

20 **“Information or document issued, given or sent by means of electronic transaction system**

25 **28A.**—(1) Any information or document required or permitted, under this Act or a scheduled law, to be issued, given or sent by the Registrar, the Authority or any other person or body appointed or constituted under this Act or the scheduled law (as the case may be) to any person may be issued, given or sent by —

(a) uploading the information or document on the electronic transaction system; and

30 (b) notifying the person how and when the person may access the information or document on the electronic transaction system, by sending the notification to the

person’s last email address or in any other manner prescribed under section 35(2)(*ba*).

(2) The issuing, giving or sending of a document in accordance with this section is effective despite section 42A or any other provision of this Act or any scheduled law requiring or permitting the document to be issued, given or sent by other means. 5

(3) This section does not apply to any notice, summons or document to be served in connection with proceedings in court.

(4) In this section, “last email address” means the last email address given by the person concerned for the purpose of subsection (1)(*b*).” 10

New sections 30A to 30E

8. In the ACRA Act, after section 30, insert —

“Information from prescribed public agencies or prescribed entities 15

30A.—(1) A prescribed public agency or a prescribed entity may, at the request of the Registrar or the Authority, provide information, including personal data, to the Registrar or the Authority for the purposes of subsection (2) or (3) (as the case may be) unless the prescribed public agency or prescribed entity is prohibited by any written law from so providing the information. 20

(2) The Registrar or the Authority may use information obtained from any prescribed public agency for any purpose under this Act or any scheduled law, including to keep, maintain, rectify or update the information kept in the repository mentioned in section 6(1)(*c*) or any register kept under a scheduled Act. 25

(3) The Registrar or the Authority may use information obtained from any prescribed entity to verify the accuracy of any information or document kept, or to be kept, in the repository mentioned in section 6(1)(*c*). 30

(4) If the Registrar or the Authority uses information mentioned in subsection (2) for any purpose permitted by that subsection, instead of obtaining the information from a person required under any other provision of this Act or any scheduled law to provide the same, that person —

- (a) is deemed to have complied with the requirement to provide the information for that purpose; and
- (b) is not liable for any error or inaccuracy in the information used under subsection (2), unless the Registrar or the Authority has —
 - (i) requested that person to verify the information; and
 - (ii) given that person a reasonable opportunity to correct that information.

(5) No prescribed public agency or prescribed entity, or a person acting on behalf of a prescribed public agency or prescribed entity, shall —

- (a) be guilty of an offence under any written law or of any breach of confidence;
- (b) incur any civil liability; or
- (c) be liable to any disciplinary action,

only because the prescribed public agency, prescribed entity or person (as the case may be) provided or purportedly provided information to the Registrar or the Authority under subsection (1) in good faith and with reasonable care.

Use of information and documents in repository

30B.—(1) The Registrar or the Authority may provide information and documents (whether in bulk or otherwise) from the repository mentioned in section 6(1)(c), including personal data provided to or obtained by the Registrar or the Authority under this Act or any scheduled law, in accordance with the disclosure framework and subject to any restriction

relating to confidentiality under this Act or a scheduled law, for any of the following purposes:

- (a) to any authorised information service provider to provide information services to any person;
- (b) to assist any person to exercise a power or to fulfil any obligation under any written law as specified in the Sixth Schedule;
- (c) to provide the service mentioned in section 27(1)(c), in circumstances other than as mentioned in paragraphs (a) and (b).

(2) Subsection (1) and the disclosure framework do not limit or prevent the provision of information or documents by the Registrar or the Authority as permitted or required by or under any other Act or law.

Exclusion of residential address from public disclosure if contact address is available

30C.—(1) Subject to subsection (2) and any exception specified in the Sixth Schedule, an individual’s residential address must be excluded from public disclosure.

(2) The Registrar may cause an individual’s residential address to cease to be excluded from public disclosure in accordance with section 30D.

(3) Where, pursuant to subsection (2), the individual’s residential address has ceased to be excluded from public disclosure, the Registrar must cause the exclusion from public disclosure to resume if —

- (a) subject to section 30D(8) and the equivalent provision in any scheduled Act, the Registrar receives notice of the individual’s contact address under this Act or any scheduled Act; or
- (b) the Court so directs on an appeal under section 30D(7) or the equivalent provision in any scheduled Act.

(4) In this section and in section 30D —

“contact address”, in relation to an individual, means an individual’s contact address kept or maintained by the Authority under this Act or by the Registrar under any scheduled Act;

“public disclosure” means disclosure under section 30B(1);

“Registrar” means the Registrar appointed under any scheduled Act;

“residential address”, in relation to an individual, means an individual’s residential address kept or maintained by the Authority under this Act or by the Registrar under any scheduled Act.

Cessation of exclusion of residential address from public disclosure

30D.—(1) For the purposes of section 30C(2), the grounds for causing an individual’s residential address to cease to be excluded from public disclosure are either that —

(a) communications sent by any officer of the Authority under this Act, or by the Registrar or any officer of the Authority under any scheduled Act, to the individual at his or her contact address and requiring a response within a specified period remain unanswered; or

(b) there is evidence to show that service of any document under this Act or any scheduled Act at the individual’s contact address is not effective to bring it to the notice of the individual.

(2) Before causing an individual’s residential address to cease to be excluded from public disclosure pursuant to section 30C(2), the Registrar must give a notice under subsection (3) to the individual and the interested persons specified in the Sixth Schedule (if any).

(3) The notice mentioned in subsection (2) must —

(a) state the grounds under subsection (1) on which the Registrar intends to cease the exclusion of the individual's residential address; and

(b) specify the period within which representations may be made to the Registrar.

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(4) The Registrar must consider the representations (if any) given in response to the notice mentioned in subsection (2) and received within the period specified by the Registrar under subsection (3)(b).

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(5) If the Registrar decides to cause the individual's residential address to cease being excluded from public disclosure, the Registrar must before doing so give notice of the decision to the individual and the interested persons specified in the Sixth Schedule (if any).

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(6) A notice to the individual under subsection (2) or (5) must be sent to the individual's residential address unless it appears to the Registrar that service at that address may be ineffective to bring it to the individual's notice, in which case it may be sent to any other last known address of that individual.

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(7) Any person aggrieved by the decision of the Registrar under section 30C(2) may, within 30 days after the date of receiving the notice under subsection (5), appeal to the Court which may confirm or reverse the Registrar's decision and make any directions in the matter.

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(8) The individual is not allowed to provide a contact address within 3 years after the Registrar causes the individual's residential address to cease to be excluded from public disclosure, unless the Registrar is satisfied that there is good cause for allowing the individual to do so in a particular case.

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(9) Subject to subsections (8) and (10), where an individual provides a new contact address under this Act or any scheduled Act, the Registrar must replace the individual's contact address in the repository mentioned in section 6(1)(c) with the new contact address.

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(10) Subsection (9) does not require the replacement of the individual's contact address in any document kept in the repository.

Disclosure framework

5 **30E.**—(1) The disclosure framework applicable to information and documents in the repository mentioned in section 6(1)(c), including personal data mentioned in section 30B(1), is as set out in the Sixth Schedule.

10 (2) The Minister may, by order in the *Gazette*, amend the Sixth Schedule, which may include the following matters:

- (a) any exception to section 30C(1);
- (b) the interested persons mentioned in section 30D(2) and (5);
- 15 (c) the types of information and documents mentioned in subsection (1) that the Registrar or the Authority must not disclose;
- (d) the persons or classes of persons to whom the Registrar or the Authority must not disclose any information or document mentioned in subsection (1);
- 20 (e) the requirements that any person who receives any information or document mentioned in subsection (1) disclosed by the Registrar or the Authority must comply with.”.

Amendment of section 35

25 **9.** In the ACRA Act, in section 35(2), after paragraph (b), insert —

“*(ba)* for the purposes of section 28A —

- (i) require any person who may be issued, given or sent information or a document by means of the electronic transaction system to provide an email address for notification under section 28A(1)(b);

- (ii) prescribe any other manner in which the notification under section 28A(1)(b) may be given; and
- (iii) prescribe the time and circumstances when the information or document is deemed to be issued, given or sent by means of the electronic transaction system;”.

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Amendment of section 42A

10. In the ACRA Act, in section 42A —

- (a) in subsection (2)(b) and (d), after “residential address”, insert “, contact address”;
- (b) in subsection (2)(c), after “resident there,”, insert “at the individual’s contact address with an adult apparently resident or employed there,”;
- (c) in subsection (8), in the definition of “business address”, in paragraph (a), delete “, or place of employment,”; and
- (d) in subsection (8), after the definition of “business address”, insert —
 - ““contact address”, in relation to an individual, means an individual’s contact address kept or maintained by the Authority under this Act or by the Registrar under any scheduled Act;”.

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New Sixth Schedule

11. In the ACRA Act, after the Fifth Schedule, insert —

“SIXTH SCHEDULE

Sections 26, 30B, 30C, 30D and 30E

DISCLOSURE FRAMEWORK

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Definitions

1. In this Schedule, “Registrar” and “residential address” have the meanings given by section 30C(4).

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Limits to section 30B

2. Subject to paragraph 3, the Registrar or the Authority must not, under section 30B(1), provide to any person —

- (a) information obtained under section 28(1A) that is not related to the transaction concerned; or
- (b) information obtained under section 30A.

Permitted disclosure of residential address

3. Despite paragraph 2, and as an exception to section 30C(1), the Registrar or the Authority may provide the residential address of any individual —

- (a) to an authorised information service provider under section 30B(1)(a), but the authorised information service provider must not disclose the individual's residential address in any information service provided by the authorised information service provider; or
- (b) under section 30B(1)(b).

Permitted disclosure under section 30B(1)(b)

4. Section 30B(1)(b) applies to assist the following persons to exercise their power or to fulfil their obligations under the following specified Acts —

(a) in any of the following roles:

- (i) a trustee of a bankrupt's estate appointed under the Insolvency, Restructuring and Dissolution Act 2018 or the repealed Bankruptcy Act (Cap. 20, 2009 Revised Edition) as in force before 30 July 2020;
- (ii) a liquidator or provisional liquidator appointed under the Insolvency, Restructuring and Dissolution Act 2018, or the Companies Act 1967 as in force before 30 July 2020;
- (iii) a judicial manager or an interim judicial manager appointed under the Insolvency, Restructuring and Dissolution Act 2018, or the Companies Act 1967 as in force before 30 July 2020;
- (iv) a receiver or manager appointed under the Insolvency, Restructuring and Dissolution Act 2018, or the Companies Act 1967 as in force before 30 July 2020; or

(b) relating to the prevention of money laundering, terrorism financing and the financing of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction as —

- (i) a financial institution as defined in section 2 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2022;
- (ii) a moneylender licensed under the Moneylenders Act 2008; or
- (iii) a licensed estate agent as defined in section 3(1) of the Estate Agents Act 2010.

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Interested persons under section 30D

5. The interested persons mentioned in section 30D(2) and (5) in relation to an individual are the entities in column 2 of the table corresponding to the position held by the individual in column 1:

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<i>Column 1</i> <i>Position of individual</i>	<i>Column 2</i> <i>Interested person</i>
1. A partner or manager of an accounting LLP or a director, chief executive officer or secretary of an accounting corporation	<p>(a) Every accounting LLP of which the Registrar has been notified under the Accountants Act 2004 that the individual is a partner or manager; and</p> <p>(b) Every accounting corporation of which the Registrar has been notified under the Accountants Act 2004 that the individual is a director, chief executive officer or secretary.</p>
2. An employee of an accounting LLP or accounting corporation who is a public accountant and practising as such in the accounting LLP or accounting corporation	Every accounting LLP or accounting corporation in which the Registrar has been notified under the Accountants Act 2004 that the individual is practising as a public accountant.
3. A director, chief executive officer or secretary of a company	Every company of which the Registrar has been notified under the Companies Act 1967 that the individual is a director, chief executive officer or secretary.

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4. A member of a private company	The private company.
5. A director or authorised representative of a foreign company	Every foreign company of which the Registrar has been notified under the Companies Act 1967 that the individual is a director or authorised representative.
6. A partner or manager of a limited liability partnership	Every limited liability partnership of which the Registrar has been notified under the Limited Liability Partnerships Act 2005 that the individual is a partner or manager.
7. A director or secretary of a variable capital company	Every variable capital company of which the Registrar has been notified under the Variable Capital Companies Act 2018 that the individual is a director or secretary.

Miscellaneous amendments

12. In the ACRA Act —

(a) in the following provisions, replace “scheduled Act or Fifth Schedule Act” wherever it appears with “scheduled law”:

Section 26, definition of “transaction”

Section 27(1)(b) and (d), (2)(c), (3)(b) and (5)(a)

Section 28(1)(a) and (b)

Section 30(1)(a);

Section 32(14); and

(b) in section 27(6)(a) and (b), replace “scheduled Acts or Fifth Schedule Acts” with “scheduled laws”.

PART 2
AMENDMENT OF
ACCOUNTANTS ACT 2004

Amendment of section 2

13. In the Accountants Act 2004 (called in this Part the Accountants Act), in section 2(1) — 5

(a) replace the definition of “alternate address” with —

““ACRA administered Act” means the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004 or any of the written laws specified in the Second Schedule to that Act;”;

(b) after the definition of “Complaints Committee”, insert —

““contact address”, in relation to an individual, means an address that meets all of the following conditions: 15

(a) it is a physical address at which the individual can be physically found or contacted by post;

(b) it is not a post office box number;

(c) it is located in the same jurisdiction as the individual’s residential address;”;

(c) after the definition of “Disciplinary Committee”, insert —

““electronic transaction system” means the electronic transaction system mentioned in section 12A(1);”;

(d) after the definition of “firm”, insert —

““full name” or “name” means —

(a) in the case of an individual registered under the National Registration Act 1965 — the name as it appears in the latest identity card issued to 30

that individual under section 9 of that Act; or

- (b) in the case of an individual not registered under the National Registration Act 1965 — the name as it appears in the latest passport issued to that individual or such other similar evidence of identification as is available;”.

New sections 8A, 8B and 8C

14. In the Accountants Act, after section 8, insert —

“Transitional provision for contact address

8A.—(1) Where an individual maintained an alternate address with the Registrar under this Act immediately before the commencement date, as from that date, the Registrar must cause —

- (a) the alternate address to be kept as the individual’s contact address in a register maintained under section 8(1), instead of as the individual’s alternate address, until notice of a change in the individual’s contact address is lodged under any ACRA administered Act on or after that date; and
- (b) the contact address to be made available for public inspection under section 8(2)(b) as the individual’s address.

(2) Where an individual did not maintain an alternate address with the Registrar under this Act immediately before the commencement date, but the individual’s residential address is kept in a register maintained under section 8(1), the Registrar must, as from that date, cause —

- (a) the individual’s residential address to be kept as the individual’s contact address in that register, in addition to being kept as the individual’s residential address, until notice of a change in the individual’s

contact address is lodged under any ACRA administered Act on or after that date; and

- (b) the contact address to be made available for public inspection under section 8(2)(b) as the individual's address.

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(3) Where —

- (a) before the commencement date, the residential address of an individual practitioner of an accounting corporation, an accounting firm or an accounting LLP, a director of an accounting corporation, a partner of an accounting firm or a partner or manager of an accounting LLP (called in this subsection the individual) has been entered in a register mentioned in section 8(1) of that accounting corporation, accounting firm or accounting LLP, as the case may be; and

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- (b) on the commencement date, the registers mentioned in section 8(1) of that accounting corporation, accounting firm or accounting LLP (as the case may be) do not show that the individual holds any of the positions mentioned in paragraph (a) in the same accounting corporation, accounting firm or accounting LLP, as the case may be,

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the Registrar must, as from the commencement date, cause the individual's residential address to be excluded from public inspection of that register of that accounting corporation, accounting firm or accounting LLP (as the case may be) under section 8(2)(b).

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(4) In this section —

“commencement date” means the date of commencement of section 14 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024;

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“individual practitioner” has the meaning given by section 38B.

Exclusion of residential address from public inspection if contact address is available

5 **8B.**—(1) The Registrar must cause an individual’s residential address recorded in any register maintained under section 8(1) to be excluded from public inspection under section 8(2)(b).

10 (2) Where, pursuant to subsection (1) or (3), the individual’s residential address is excluded from public inspection under section 8(2)(b), the Registrar may cause the residential address to cease to be excluded from such public inspection in accordance with section 8C.

(3) Where, pursuant to subsection (2), the individual’s residential address has ceased to be excluded from public inspection under section 8(2)(b), the Registrar must cause the exclusion from public inspection to resume if —

- 15 (a) subject to section 8C(8) and the equivalent provisions in other ACRA administered Acts, the Registrar receives notice of the individual’s contact address under any ACRA administered Act; or
- (b) the Court so directs on an appeal under section 8C(7).

20 **Cessation of exclusion of residential address from public inspection**

25 **8C.**—(1) For the purposes of section 8B(2), the grounds for causing an individual’s residential address to cease to be excluded from public inspection under section 8(2)(b) are either that —

- 30 (a) communications sent by the Registrar under this Act, or any officer of the Authority under any ACRA administered Act, to the individual at his or her contact address and requiring a response within a specified period remain unanswered; or
- (b) there is evidence to show that service of any document under this Act or under any ACRA administered Act at the individual’s contact address

is not effective to bring it to the notice of the individual.

(2) Before causing the individual's residential address to cease to be excluded from public inspection pursuant to section 8B(2), the Registrar must give a notice under subsection (3) to — 5

- (a) the individual; and
- (b) every accounting LLP or accounting corporation in respect of which the individual's residential address had been recorded in any register maintained under section 8(1). 10

(3) The notice mentioned in subsection (2) must —

- (a) state the grounds under subsection (1) on which the Registrar intends to cease the exclusion of the individual's residential address; and
- (b) specify the period within which representations may be made to the Registrar. 15

(4) The Registrar must consider the representations (if any) given in response to the notice mentioned in subsection (2) and received within the period specified by the Registrar under subsection (3)(b). 20

(5) If the Registrar decides to cause the individual's residential address to cease being excluded from public inspection, the Registrar must before doing so give notice of the decision to —

- (a) the individual; and
- (b) every accounting LLP or accounting corporation in respect of which the individual's residential address had been recorded in any register maintained under section 8(1). 25

(6) A notice to the individual under subsection (2) or (5) must be sent to the individual's residential address unless it appears to the Registrar that service at that address may be ineffective to bring it to the individual's notice, in which case it may be sent to any other last known address of that individual. 30

(7) Any person aggrieved by the decision of the Registrar under section 8B(2) may, within 30 days after the date of receiving the notice under subsection (5), appeal to the Court which may confirm or reverse the Registrar’s decision and make any directions in the matter.

(8) The individual is not allowed to provide a contact address within 3 years after the Registrar causes the individual’s residential address to cease to be excluded from public inspection under section 8(2)(b) pursuant to section 8B(2), unless the Registrar is satisfied that there is good cause for allowing the individual to do so in a particular case.

(9) Subject to subsection (8), where notice of a change in the individual’s contact address is lodged under any ACRA administered Act, the Registrar must replace the individual’s contact address in each register maintained under section 8(1) with the new contact address.”.

Amendment of section 11

15. In the Accountants Act, in section 11(2) —

(a) replace “3 January 2016” with “the date of commencement of section 15 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024”; and

(b) in paragraph (d), after “residential address”, insert “and contact address”.

Amendment of section 12B

16. In the Accountants Act, in section 12B —

(a) in subsection (1), replace “Subject to section 12C, a” with “A”; and

(b) after subsection (2), insert —

“(3) Subsection (1) does not apply to any document prescribed as an excluded document for the purposes of this subsection.

(4) Where a document is submitted on or after the date of commencement of section 16 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024 using a form on the electronic transaction system, the reference to a document in subsection (1) excludes the following entries in the form: 5

(a) a means of notification provided by a person for the purposes of section 28A(1)(b) of the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004; 10

(b) an individual's date of birth obtained under this Act or section 28(1A) of the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004;

(c) any other prescribed information. 15

(5) Where —

(a) a document is filed or lodged with the Registrar or the Oversight Committee under this Act by submitting a form on the electronic transaction system on or after the date of commencement of section 16 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024; and 20

(b) an individual's residential address is entered in that form, 25

the Registrar must cause the individual's residential address to be excluded from every copy or extract of that document given or certified by the Registrar under subsection (1).”.

Deletion of section 12C 30

17. In the Accountants Act, delete section 12C.

Amendment of section 14

18. In the Accountants Act, in section 14(1), after “residential address”, insert “, contact address”.

Amendment of section 64A

5 **19.** In the Accountants Act, in section 64A, replace “, if the public accountant has provided an alternate address under section 12C, his or her alternate address” with “contact address”.

PART 3

AMENDMENT OF BUSINESS NAMES REGISTRATION ACT 2014

Amendment of section 2

20. In the Business Names Registration Act 2014 (called in this Part the BNR Act), in section 2(1) —

(a) replace the definition of “alternate address” with —

15 ““ACRA administered Act” means the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004 or any of the written laws specified in the Second Schedule to that Act;”;

(b) after the definition of “company”, insert —

20 ““contact address”, in relation to an individual, means an address that meets all of the following conditions:

(a) it is a physical address at which the individual can be physically found or contacted by post;

(b) it is not a post office box number;

(c) it is located in the same jurisdiction as the individual’s residential address;”;

(c) after the definition of “document”, insert —

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““electronic transaction system” means the electronic transaction system mentioned in section 29(1);” and

(d) after the definition of “foreign company”, insert —

““full name” or “name” means —

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(a) in the case of an individual registered under the National Registration Act 1965 — the name as it appears in the latest identity card issued to that individual under section 9 of that Act; or

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(b) in the case of an individual not registered under the National Registration Act 1965 — the name as it appears in the latest passport issued to that individual or such other similar evidence of identification as is available;”.

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Amendment of section 4

21. In the BNR Act, in section 4, replace subsection (5) with —

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“(5) In this section, a reference to an individual or a person includes a class of individuals or a class of persons, respectively.”.

Amendment of section 6

22. In the BNR Act, in section 6(1)(b)(iv), (vi)(A) and (vii), replace “and residential address” with “, residential address and contact address”.

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Amendment of section 11

23. In the BNR Act, in section 11(8), after “residential address”, insert “and contact address”.

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Amendment of section 28

24. In the BNR Act, in section 28 —

(a) in subsection (1), replace “Subject to section 30, a” with “A”; and

5 (b) after subsection (3), insert —

“(4) Subsection (1) does not apply to any document prescribed as an excluded document for the purposes of this subsection.

10 (5) Where a document is submitted on or after the date of commencement of section 24 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024 using a form on the electronic transaction system, the reference to a document in subsection (1) excludes the following entries in the form:

15 (a) a means of notification provided by a person for the purposes of section 28A(1)(b) of the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004;

20 (b) an individual’s date of birth obtained under this Act or section 28(1A) of the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004;

(c) any other prescribed information.

(6) Where —

25 (a) a document is filed or lodged with the Registrar under this Act by submitting a form on the electronic transaction system on or after the date of commencement of section 24 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024; and

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(b) an individual’s residential address is entered in that form,

the Registrar must cause the individual’s residential address to be excluded from every copy or extract of that document given or certified by the Registrar under subsection (1).”.

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Replacement of section 30

25. In the BNR Act, replace section 30 with —

“Transitional provision for contact address

30.—(1) Where an individual maintained an alternate address with the Registrar under this Act immediately before the commencement date, that address is taken to be the individual’s contact address for the purposes of this Act until notice of a change in the individual’s contact address is lodged under any ACRA administered Act on or after that date.

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(2) Where an individual did not maintain an alternate address with the Registrar under this Act immediately before the commencement date, the individual’s residential address is taken to be the individual’s contact address for the purposes of this Act until notice of a change in the individual’s contact address is lodged under any ACRA administered Act on or after that date.

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(3) An individual’s contact address mentioned in subsection (1) or (2) is deemed, for the purposes of section 20(1), to be a particular registered in respect of the person concerned.

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(4) In this section, “commencement date” means the date of commencement of section 25 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024.”.

Amendment of section 42

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26. In the BNR Act, in section 42 —

(a) in subsection (1)(a), after sub-paragraph (ii), insert —

- 5 “(iia) by leaving it with an adult person apparently resident or employed at, or by sending it by ordinary post or prepaid registered post to, the individual’s contact address;”;
- (b) in subsection (1)(a)(iv), after “at the”, insert “contact address or”; and
- (c) in subsection (4)(c), replace “alternate address, if any” with “contact address”.

10 PART 4

AMENDMENT OF
COMPANIES ACT 1967

Amendment of section 4

15 **27.** In the Companies Act 1967 (called in this Part the Companies Act), in section 4(1) —

(a) after the definition of “accounts”, insert —

““ACRA administered Act” means the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004 or any of the written laws specified in the Second Schedule to that Act;”;

20

(b) delete the definition of “alternate address”;

(c) after the definition of “constitution”, insert —

““contact address”, in relation to an individual, means an address that meets all of the following conditions:

25

(a) it is a physical address at which the individual can be physically found or contacted by post;

(b) it is not a post office box number;

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(c) it is located in the same jurisdiction as the individual’s residential address;”;

(d) after the definition of “electronic communication”, insert —

““electronic transaction system” means the electronic transaction system mentioned in section 12A(1);” and

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(e) after the definition of “foreign company”, insert —

““full name” or “name” means —

(a) in the case of an individual registered under the National Registration Act 1965 — the name as it appears in the latest identity card issued to that individual under section 9 of that Act; or

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(b) in the case of an individual not registered under the National Registration Act 1965 — the name as it appears in the latest passport issued to that individual or such other similar evidence of identification as is available;”.

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Amendment of section 12

28. In the Companies Act, in section 12, after subsection (2AA), insert —

“(2AB) Subsection (2)(a) and (b) does not apply to any document prescribed as an excluded document for the purposes of this subsection.

25

(2AC) Where a document is submitted on or after the date of commencement of section 28 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024 using a form on the electronic transaction system, the references to the document in subsection (2)(a) and (b) exclude the following entries in the form:

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- (a) a means of notification provided by a person for the purposes of section 28A(1)(b) of the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004;
- (b) an individual's date of birth obtained under this Act or section 28(1A) of the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004;
- (c) any other prescribed information.”.

Amendment of section 12D

29. In the Companies Act, in section 12D —

- (a) in subsection (1)(a), delete “or” at the end;
- (b) in subsection (1), after paragraph (a), insert —
 - “(aa) the register is inaccurate in respect of the particulars or document, taking account of information given in, or in support of, a notice to the Registrar under section 173A(1) or 173E(1), (2) or (3); or”;
- (c) in subsection (1)(b)(ii), after “prescribed”, insert “, or the courts”;
- (d) after subsection (1), insert —
 - “(1A) Subsections (2) to (5) do not apply where the Registrar rectifies or updates the register under subsection (1)(aa).”;
- (e) in subsections (6) and (7), replace “or defect” wherever it appears with “, defect or inaccuracy”.

New sections 12E and 12F

30. In the Companies Act, after section 12D, insert —

“Exclusion of residential address from public inspection or access if contact address is available

12E.—(1) The Registrar must cause —

(a) the residential address of a director, chief executive officer or secretary contained in the register of directors, register of chief executive officers or register of secretaries (as the case may be) kept by the Registrar under section 173(1) to be excluded from public inspection or access under section 12(2)(c); and

(b) the residential address of a member of a private company (who is an individual) contained in the electronic register of members kept by the Registrar under section 196A to be excluded from public inspection or access under section 12(2)(d).

(2) Where, pursuant to subsection (1) or (3), the residential address of a director, chief executive officer or secretary of a company or a member of a private company mentioned in subsection (1) (called in this section and section 12F the individual) is excluded from public inspection or access under section 12(2)(c) or (d) (as the case may be), the Registrar may cause the residential address to cease to be excluded from such public inspection or access in accordance with section 12F.

(3) Where, pursuant to subsection (2), the individual’s residential address has ceased to be excluded from public inspection or access under section 12(2)(c) or (d) (as the case may be), the Registrar must cause the exclusion from public inspection or access to resume if —

(a) subject to section 12F(8) and the equivalent provisions in other ACRA administered Acts, notice of a change in the individual’s contact address is lodged under any ACRA administered Act; or

(b) the Court so directs on an appeal under section 12F(7).

(4) Where —

(a) a document is filed or lodged with the Registrar under this Act by submitting a form on the electronic transaction system on or after the date of commencement of section 30 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024; and

(b) an individual's residential address is entered in that form,

the Registrar must cause the individual's residential address to be excluded from public inspection or access in respect of that document under section 12(2)(a) or (b).

Cessation of exclusion of residential address from public inspection or access

12F.—(1) For the purposes of section 12E(2), the grounds for causing the individual's residential address to cease to be excluded from public inspection or access under section 12(2)(c) or (d) (as the case may be) are either that —

(a) communications sent by the Registrar under this Act, or by any officer of the Authority under any ACRA administered Act, to the individual at his or her contact address and requiring a response within a specified period remain unanswered; or

(b) there is evidence to show that service of any document under this Act or under any ACRA administered Act at the individual's contact address is not effective to bring it to the notice of the individual.

(2) Before causing the individual's residential address to cease to be excluded from public inspection or access pursuant to section 12E(2), the Registrar must give a notice under subsection (3) to —

(a) the individual;

(b) every company of which the Registrar has been notified under this Act that the individual is a director, chief executive officer or secretary; and

(c) every private company of which the Registrar has been notified under this Act that the individual is a member.

5

(3) The notice mentioned in subsection (2) must —

(a) state the grounds under subsection (1) on which the Registrar intends to cease the exclusion of the individual's residential address; and

10

(b) specify the period within which representations may be made to the Registrar.

(4) The Registrar must consider the representations (if any) given in response to the notice mentioned in subsection (2) and received within the period specified by the Registrar under subsection (3)(b).

15

(5) If the Registrar decides to cause the individual's residential address to cease being excluded from public inspection or access, the Registrar must before doing so give notice of the decision to —

20

(a) the individual; and

(b) every company mentioned in subsection (2)(b) and (c).

(6) A notice to the individual under subsection (2) or (5) must be sent to the individual's residential address unless it appears to the Registrar that service at that address may be ineffective to bring it to the individual's notice, in which case it may be sent to any other last known address of that individual.

25

(7) Any individual aggrieved by the decision of the Registrar under section 12E(2) may, within 30 days after the date of receiving the notice under subsection (5), appeal to the Court which may confirm or reverse the Registrar's decision and make any directions in the matter.

30

(8) The individual is not allowed to provide a contact address within 3 years after the Registrar causes the individual's residential address to cease to be excluded from public inspection or access under section 12(2)(c) or (d) pursuant to section 12E(2), unless the Registrar is satisfied that there is good cause for allowing the individual to do so in a particular case.

(9) Subject to subsection (8), where an individual provides a new contact address under any ACRA administered Act, the Registrar must replace the individual's contact address contained in each register kept by the Registrar under section 12(1) with the new contact address.”.

Amendment of section 13

31. In the Companies Act, in section 13(1)(c), replace “or defect” with “, defect or inaccuracy”.

Amendment of section 63

32. In the Companies Act, in section 63(1), replace paragraph (e) with —

“(e) for each member of the private company —

(i) the full name;

(ii) the identification and nationality, if required by the Registrar;

(iii) the residential address and contact address (if the member is an individual) or the address (if otherwise); and

(iv) the number and class of shares held.”.

Amendment of section 63A

33. In the Companies Act, in section 63A(1), replace paragraph (e) with —

“(e) for each of the 50 members of the public company who, following the allotment, hold the most number of shares in the company (excluding treasury shares) —

- (i) the full name;
- (ii) the identification and nationality, if required by the Registrar;
- (iii) the residential address and contact address (if the member is an individual) or the address (if otherwise); and 5
- (iv) the number and class of shares held.”.

Amendment of section 173

34. In the Companies Act, in section 173 —

- (a) in subsection (3)(b), delete “or, at the director’s option, alternate address”; 10
- (b) in subsection (3), after paragraph (b), insert —
“*(ba)* contact address;”;
- (c) in subsection (5)(b), delete “or, at the chief executive officer’s option, alternate address”; 15
- (d) in subsection (5), after paragraph (b), insert —
“*(ba)* contact address;”;
- (e) in subsection (6)(b), delete “or, at the secretary’s option, alternate address”;
- (f) in subsection (6), after paragraph (b), insert — 20
“*(ba)* contact address;”;
- (g) replace subsection (11) with —
“(11) For the purposes of this section, a director includes an alternate, a substitute or a local director.”;
- (h) delete subsections (12) and (13); and 25
- (i) in subsection (14), replace “alternate address” with “contact address”.

Amendment of section 173A

35. In the Companies Act, in section 173A, delete subsection (2).

Amendment of section 173B

36. In the Companies Act, in section 173B, delete subsection (4).

Amendment of section 173D

5 37. In the Companies Act, in section 173D, in the section heading, after “**auditors**”, insert “**before 3 January 2016**”.

Amendment of section 173E

38. In the Companies Act, in section 173E(4), replace “alternate address” with “contact address”.

Amendment of section 173F

10 39. In the Companies Act, in section 173F —

(a) in the section heading, after “**Registrar**”, insert “**to indicate death or disqualification**”;

(b) replace subsection (1) with —

15 “(1) Where the Registrar has reasonable cause to believe that a director of a company has been disqualified, under or by virtue of section 148, 149, 149A, 154, 155, 155A, 155C or 155D —

(a) from being a director of the company; or

(b) from acting as a director of the company,

20 the Registrar may on his or her own initiative amend the register of directors of the company kept by the Registrar under section 173 to indicate that the person has been disqualified from being or acting as a director (as the case may be) by virtue of that fact.

25 (1A) Where the Registrar has reasonable cause to believe that a director of a company is dead, the Registrar may on his or her own initiative amend the register of directors of the company kept by the Registrar under section 173 to indicate that the person has ceased to be a director by virtue of that fact.”; and

30

(c) in subsection (5), after “subsection (1),”, insert “(1A),”.

Replacement of section 173G

40. In the Companies Act, replace section 173G with —

“Transitional provision on keeping of contact address and residential address of director, chief executive officer or secretary

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173G.—(1) Where, immediately before the commencement date, there is an alternate address of a director, chief executive officer or secretary entered in the register of directors, register of chief executive officers or register of secretaries, respectively, of any company, the Registrar must, as from that date, cause —

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(a) the alternate address to be kept as the contact address of the director, chief executive officer or secretary in that register, instead of as the alternate address of that director, chief executive officer or secretary, until notice of a change in the individual’s contact address is lodged under any ACRA administered Act on or after that date; and

15

(b) that contact address to be made available for public inspection and access under section 12(2)(c) as the address of that director, chief executive officer or secretary.

20

(2) Where, immediately before the commencement date —

(a) there is no alternate address of a director, chief executive officer or secretary entered in the register of directors, register of chief executive officers or register of secretaries (as the case may be) of a company kept by the Registrar under section 173(1)(a), (b) or (c), respectively; and

25

- (b) the residential address of the director, chief executive officer or secretary is entered in the register of directors, register of chief executive officers or register of secretaries (as the case may be) of the company,

the Registrar must, as from the commencement date, cause —

- (c) the residential address to be kept as the contact address of that director, chief executive officer or secretary in that register until notice of a change in the individual's contact address is lodged under any ACRA administered Act on or after that date, in addition to being kept as the residential address of that director, chief executive officer or secretary; and
- (d) the contact address to be made available for public inspection and access under section 12(2)(c) as the address of that director, chief executive officer or secretary.

(3) Where —

- (a) before the commencement date, the residential address of a director, chief executive officer or secretary of a company (called in this subsection the individual) has been entered in the register of directors, register of chief executive officers or register of secretaries, of the company; and
- (b) on the commencement date, those registers do not show that the individual holds any of the positions mentioned in paragraph (a) in the same company,

the Registrar must, as from the commencement date, cause the individual's residential address to be excluded from public inspection or access of that register of that company under section 12(2)(c).

(4) Subsection (5) applies to a notice or information required to be furnished or given under section 173A or 173B (as the case may be) relating to an appointment or change in the appointment

of a director, chief executive officer or secretary of a company which occurred before the commencement date.

(5) Where the notice or information mentioned in subsection (4) is furnished or given on or after the commencement date, the notice or information must provide the information required under section 173 as in force when the notice or information is furnished or given, despite the appointment or the change in the appointment having occurred before the commencement date.

(6) In this section, “commencement date” means the date of commencement of section 40 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024.”.

Amendment of section 173H

41. In the Companies Act, in section 173H —

(a) in the section heading, replace “, **173C and 173G**” with “**and 173C**”;

(b) replace subsection (2) with —

“(2) A director, a chief executive officer, a secretary or an auditor who fails to comply with any requirement under section 173B shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 and also to a default penalty.”; and

(c) delete subsections (3) and (4).

Amendment of section 196A

42. In the Companies Act, in section 196A(2)(a), replace sub-paragraph (ii) with —

“(ii) the residential address and contact address (if the member is an individual) or address (if otherwise) of each member;”.

New section 196E

43. In the Companies Act, after section 196D, insert —

“Transitional provision on keeping of residential address and contact address of members of private company

5 **196E.** As from the date of commencement of section 43 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024, the Registrar must cause —

(a) the address contained in the electronic register of members of each member who is an individual to be kept as the residential address of that member and, until notice of a change in the individual’s contact address is lodged under any ACRA administered Act on or after that date, also as the contact address of that member; and

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15 (b) that contact address to be made available for public inspection and access under section 12(2)(d) as the address of that member.”.

Amendment of section 215B

44. In the Companies Act, in section 215B(1)(ca) —

(a) replace “or alternate address (as the case may be)” with “and contact address”; and

20 (b) replace “entered” with “contained”.

Amendment of section 368

45. In the Companies Act, in section 368 —

(a) in subsection (1)(d) and (e), after “residential address”, insert “and contact address”; and

25 (b) in subsection (2), replace “, if the director or authorised representative has provided an alternate address under section 370A, his or her alternate address” with “contact address”.

Amendment of section 368B

30 **46.** In the Companies Act, in section 368B, in the section heading, after “representatives”, insert “before 3 January 2016”.

Replacement of section 370A

47. In the Companies Act, replace section 370A with —

“Transitional provision for contact address of director or authorised representative of foreign company

370A.—(1) Where a director or authorised representative of a foreign company (who is an individual) maintained an alternate address with the Registrar under this Act immediately before the commencement date, that address is taken to be the individual’s contact address for the purposes of this Act, until notice of a change in the individual’s contact address is lodged under any ACRA administered Act on or after that date. 5 10

(2) Where a director or authorised representative of a foreign company (who is an individual) did not maintain an alternate address with the Registrar under this Act immediately before the commencement date, the individual’s residential address is taken to be the individual’s contact address for the purposes of this Act, until notice of a change in the individual’s contact address is lodged under any ACRA administered Act on or after that date. 15

(3) An individual’s contact address mentioned in subsection (1) or (2) is deemed, for the purposes of section 372(1)(ca), to be a particular lodged with the Registrar under section 368(1). 20

(4) Subsection (5) applies to a notice or information required to be lodged or given under section 368(1)(d) or (e), 368A(1), (2)(a), (3) or (4) or 370(4) (as the case may be), relating to a director or authorised representative of a foreign company appointed before the commencement date. 25

(5) Where the notice or information mentioned in subsection (4) is lodged or given on or after the commencement date, the notice or information must provide the information required under section 368 as in force when the notice or information is lodged or given, despite the director or authorised representative having been appointed before the commencement date. 30 35

(6) In this section, “commencement date” means the date of commencement of section 47 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024.”.

Amendment of section 373

5 **48.** In the Companies Act, in section 373 —

 (a) replace subsections (2) and (3) with —

 “(2) In subsection (1), “financial statements” means —

10 (a) in the case where the foreign company’s shares are listed for quotation on an approved exchange in Singapore or a securities exchange in a country or territory outside Singapore and the foreign company is required by the rules of the approved exchange or securities exchange (as the case may be) to prepare financial statements — those financial statements; and

15

 (b) in any other case —

20 (i) where the foreign company prepares financial statements in accordance with accounting standards that are substantially similar to the Accounting Standards — those financial statements;

25

30 (ii) where the foreign company does not prepare the financial statements mentioned in sub-paragraph (i) but prepares financial statements in accordance with the applicable accounting standards as required by the law for the time being in force in the place of the foreign company’s incorporation which are audited or

not (as the case may be) in accordance with that law — those financial statements; or

(iii) where the foreign company does not prepare the financial statements mentioned in sub-paragraph (i) or (ii) — the unaudited summary financial statements of the foreign company. 5

(3) The financial statements mentioned in subsection (1) must be lodged — 10

(a) in the case where the foreign company is required by the law for the time being in force in the place of the foreign company’s incorporation to table the financial statements at an annual general meeting — within 60 days after the date on which its annual general meeting is held; or 15

(b) in any other case — within such period as the directors of the foreign company would have been required to lodge its financial statements if the company were a public company incorporated under this Act which does not keep a branch register outside Singapore.”; 20 25

(b) in subsection (4), replace “subsection (2)(a)” with “subsection (1)”;

(c) replace subsection (13) with —

“(13) The Registrar may, upon the application of a foreign company, make an order — 30

(a) relieving the foreign company from complying with any requirement relating to the form and content of the financial statements mentioned in 35

subsection (2)(b)(i) or (ii) or the unaudited summary financial statements mentioned in subsection (2)(b)(iii), including any aspect relating to the audit of those documents; or

(b) allowing the foreign company to lodge under subsection (1) any other document instead of the financial statements mentioned in subsection (2)(b)(i) or (ii) or the unaudited summary financial statements mentioned in subsection (2)(b)(iii).

(13A) The Registrar may, upon the application of a foreign company, make an order relieving the foreign company from any requirement relating to audit or the form and content of the documents referred to in subsection (7).”;

(d) in subsections (14), (15) and (16), after “subsection (13)”, insert “or (13A)”; and

(e) in subsection (17), after “(13)”, insert “, (13A)”.

Amendment of section 376

49. In the Companies Act, in section 376(b), replace “registered address” with “residential address or contact address”.

Amendment of Sixth Schedule

50. In the Companies Act, in the Sixth Schedule, in Part 1, replace “alternate addresses of directors (as entered in the register of directors kept by the Registrar under section 173(1)(a) in respect of the company)” with “contact addresses of directors (contained in the register of directors kept by the Registrar under section 173(1)(a) in respect of the company)”.

PART 5
AMENDMENT OF
INSOLVENCY, RESTRUCTURING
AND DISSOLUTION ACT 2018

Amendment of section 254

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51. In the Insolvency, Restructuring and Dissolution Act 2018, in section 254 —

(a) after subsection (2), insert —

“(2A) Any person may, on payment of the prescribed fee, require a copy of or an extract from any document kept by the Registrar of Companies to be given or certified by the Registrar of Companies.”; and

10

(b) after subsection (3), insert —

“(3A) Subsections (2) and (2A) do not apply to any document prescribed as an excluded document for the purposes of this subsection.

15

(3B) Where a document is submitted on or after the date of commencement of section 51 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024 using a form on the electronic transaction system established under Part 6A of the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004, the references to the document in subsections (2) and (2A) exclude the following entries in the form:

20

25

(a) a means of notification provided by a person for the purposes of section 28A(1)(b) of the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004;

(b) an individual’s date of birth obtained under this Act or section 28(1A) of the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004;

30

(c) any other prescribed information.”.

PART 6

AMENDMENT OF
LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIPS ACT 2005**Amendment of section 2**

5 **52.** In the Limited Liability Partnerships Act 2005 (called in this Part the LLP Act), in section 2(1) —

(a) replace the definition of “alternate address” with —

10 ““ACRA administered Act” means the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004 or any of the written laws specified in the Second Schedule to that Act;”;

(b) after the definition of “company”, insert —

15 ““contact address”, in relation to an individual, means an address that meets all of the following conditions:

(a) it is a physical address at which the individual can be physically found or contacted by post;

(b) it is not a post office box number;

20 (c) it is located in the same jurisdiction as the individual’s residential address;”;

and

(c) after the definition of “foreign company”, insert —

““full name” or “name” means —

25 (a) in the case of an individual registered under the National Registration Act 1965 — the name as it appears in the latest identity card issued to that individual under section 9 of that Act; or

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- (b) in the case of an individual not registered under the National Registration Act 1965 — the name as it appears in the latest passport issued to that individual or such other similar evidence of identification as is available;” 5

Amendment of section 19

53. In the LLP Act, in section 19(1)(d)(iv) and (f)(iv), after “residential address”, insert “and contact address”. 10

Amendment of section 34

54. In the LLP Act, in section 34, after subsection (8), insert —

“(9) A statement lodged on or after the date of commencement of section 54 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024 — 15

(a) in relation to the appointment of a new partner (who is an individual) for the purposes of subsection (1)(a), must contain the particulars mentioned in section 19(1)(d) as in force when the statement is lodged, despite the new partner having been appointed before that date; and 20

(b) in relation to the appointment of a new manager (who is an individual) for the purposes of subsection (1)(b) must contain the particulars mentioned in section 19(1)(f) as in force when the statement is lodged, despite the new manager having been appointed before that date.”. 25

Amendment of section 35

55. In the LLP Act, in section 35, after subsection (4), insert —

“(5) Where a partner or manager (who is an individual) gives information to a limited liability partnership under subsection (1)(a) or (2) on or after the date of commencement of section 55 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory 30

Enhancements) Act 2024 in relation to his or her appointment, the information given must be in accordance with section 19(1)(d) or (f) (as the case may be) as in force when the information is given, despite the appointment having taken place before the date of commencement.”.

Amendment of section 36

56. In the LLP Act, in section 36 —

(a) in subsection (1), replace “Subject to section 37, a” with “A”; and

(b) after subsection (3), insert —

“(4) Subsection (1) does not apply to any document prescribed as an excluded document for the purposes of this subsection.

(5) Where a document is submitted on or after the date of commencement of section 56 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024 using a form on the electronic transaction system, the reference to the document in subsection (1) excludes the following entries in the form:

(a) a means of notification provided by a person for the purposes of section 28A(1)(b) of the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004;

(b) an individual’s date of birth obtained under this Act or section 28(1A) of the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004;

(c) any other prescribed information.

(6) Where —

(a) a document is filed or lodged with the Registrar under this Act by submitting a form on the electronic transaction system on or after the date of commencement of

section 56 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024; and

(b) an individual’s residential address is entered in that form,

the Registrar must cause the individual’s residential address to be excluded from every copy or extract of that document given or certified by the Registrar under subsection (1).” 5

Replacement of section 37

57. In the LLP Act, replace section 37 with — 10

“Transitional provision for contact address

37.—(1) Where an individual maintained an alternate address with the Registrar under this Act immediately before the commencement date, that address is taken to be the individual’s contact address for the purposes of this Act, until notice of a change in the individual’s contact address is lodged under any ACRA administered Act on or after that date. 15

(2) Where an individual did not maintain an alternate address with the Registrar under this Act immediately before the commencement date, the individual’s residential address is taken to be the individual’s contact address for the purposes of this Act, until notice of a change in the individual’s contact address is lodged under any ACRA administered Act on or after that date. 20

(3) An individual’s contact address mentioned in subsection (1) or (2) is deemed, for the purposes of section 34(1)(d), to have been lodged with the Registrar under this Act. 25

(4) In this section, “commencement date” means the date of commencement of section 57 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024.” 30

Amendment of section 94

58. In the LLP Act, in section 94, replace “, if the partner or manager has provided an alternate address under section 37, the alternate address” with “contact address”.

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PART 7

AMENDMENT OF LIMITED PARTNERSHIPS ACT 2008

Amendment of section 2

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59. In the Limited Partnerships Act 2008 (called in this Part the LP Act), in section 2(1) —

(a) before the definition of “agreed contribution”, insert —

““ACRA administered Act” means the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004 or any of the written laws specified in the Second Schedule to that Act;”;

15

(b) delete the definition of “alternate address”;

(c) after the definition of “certificate of confirmation of registration”, insert —

20

““contact address”, in relation to an individual, means an address that meets all of the following conditions:

(a) it is a physical address at which the individual can be physically found or contacted by post;

25

(b) it is not a post office box number;

(c) it is located in the same jurisdiction as the individual’s residential address;”;

and

(d) after the definition of “foreign firm”, insert —

““full name” or “name” means —

- (a) in the case of an individual registered under the National Registration Act 1965 — the name as it appears in the latest identity card issued to that individual under section 9 of that Act; or 5
- (b) in the case of an individual not registered under the National Registration Act 1965 — the name as it appears in the latest passport issued to that individual or such other similar evidence of identification as is available;” 10

Amendment of section 11

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60. In the LP Act, in section 11(1)(e)(iv) and (h)(iv), after “residential address”, insert “and contact address”.

Amendment of section 18

61. In the LP Act, in section 18, after subsection (7), insert —

“(8) A statement lodged on or after the date of commencement of section 61 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024 — 20

(a) in relation to the appointment of a new partner for the purposes of subsection (1)(a), must contain the particulars mentioned in section 11(1)(e) as in force when the statement is lodged, despite the new partner having been appointed before the date of commencement; and 25

(b) in relation to the appointment of a new local manager for the purposes of subsection (1)(b), must contain the particulars mentioned in section 11(1)(h) as in force when the statement is lodged, despite the new local manager having been appointed before the date of commencement.” 30

Amendment of section 18A

62. In the LP Act, in section 18A, after subsection (3), insert —

“(4) Where a partner or local manager (who is an individual) gives information to a general partner of a limited partnership under subsection (1)(a) or (2) on or after the date of commencement of section 62 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024 in relation to his or her appointment, the information given must be in accordance with section 11(1)(e) or (h) (as the case may be) as in force when the information is given, despite the appointment having taken place before the date of commencement.”.

Amendment of section 18B

63. In the LP Act, in section 18B —

(a) in subsection (1), replace “Subject to section 18C, a” with “A”; and

(b) after subsection (3), insert —

“(4) Subsection (1) does not apply to any document prescribed as an excluded document for the purposes of this subsection.

(5) Where a document is submitted on or after the date of commencement of section 63 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024 using a form on the electronic transaction system, the reference to a document in subsection (1) excludes the following entries in the form:

(a) a means of notification provided by a person for the purposes of section 28A(1)(b) of the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004;

(b) an individual’s date of birth obtained under this Act or section 28(1A) of the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004;

(c) any other prescribed information.

(6) Where —

(a) a document is filed or lodged with the Registrar under this Act by submitting a form on the electronic transaction system on or after the date of commencement of section 63 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024; and

(b) an individual’s residential address is entered in that form,

the Registrar must cause the individual’s residential address to be excluded from every copy or extract of that document given or certified by the Registrar under subsection (1).”.

Replacement of section 18C

64. In the LP Act, replace section 18C with —

“Transitional provision for contact address

18C.—(1) Where an individual maintained an alternate address with the Registrar under this Act immediately before the commencement date, that address is taken to be the individual’s contact address for the purposes of this Act, until notice of a change in the individual’s contact address is lodged under any ACRA administered Act on or after that date.

(2) Where an individual did not maintain an alternate address with the Registrar under this Act immediately before the commencement date, the individual’s residential address is taken to be the individual’s contact address for the purposes of this Act, until notice of a change in the individual’s contact address is lodged under any ACRA administered Act on or after that date.

(3) An individual’s contact address mentioned in subsection (1) or (2) is deemed, for the purposes of section 18(1)(d), to have been lodged with the Registrar under this Act.

(4) In this section, “commencement date” means the date of commencement of section 64 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024.”.

Amendment of section 40

5 **65.** In the LP Act, in section 40(2)(c), after “person’s”, insert “contact address or”.

Amendment of section 40A

10 **66.** In the LP Act, in section 40A, replace “, if the partner or manager has provided an alternate address under section 18C, the alternate address” with “contact address”.

PART 8

AMENDMENT OF
VARIABLE CAPITAL COMPANIES ACT 2018

Amendment of section 2

15 **67.** In the Variable Capital Companies Act 2018 (called in this Part the VCC Act), in section 2(1), after the definition of “FSMA 2022”, insert —

 ““full name” or “name” means —

20 (a) in the case of an individual registered under the National Registration Act 1965 — the name as it appears in the latest identity card issued to that individual under section 9 of that Act; or

25 (b) in the case of an individual not registered under the National Registration Act 1965 — the name as it appears in the latest passport issued to that individual or such other similar evidence of identification as is available;”.

Amendment of section 5

68. In the VCC Act, in section 5 —

- (a) in subsection (3)(h), after “subsection”, insert “(3AA) or”;
and
- (b) before subsection (4), insert —

“(3AA) The Minister may, for a period of 2 years after the date of commencement of section 70 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024, make regulations to prescribe further modifications to section 12E, 12F, 173F or 173G of the Companies Act 1967 in its application by this Act.”.

Amendment of section 9

69. In the VCC Act, in section 9, after subsection (3), insert —

“(3A) Subsection (2)(a) and (b) does not apply to any document prescribed as an excluded document for the purposes of this subsection.

(3B) Where a document is submitted on or after the date of commencement of section 69 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024 using a form on the electronic transaction system established under Part 6A of the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004, the references to the document in subsection (2)(a) and (b) exclude the following entries in the form:

- (a) a means of notification provided by a person for the purposes of section 28A(1)(b) of the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004;
- (b) an individual’s date of birth obtained under this Act or section 28(1A) of the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004;
- (c) any other prescribed information.”.

New section 11A

70. In the VCC Act, after section 11, insert —

“Application of sections 12E and 12F of Companies Act 1967

11A. Sections 12E (except subsection (1)(b)) and 12F (except subsection (2)(c)) of the Companies Act 1967 apply in relation to a VCC, a director or a secretary of a VCC, and a VCC’s register of directors or register of secretaries, as it applies in relation to a company, a director or a secretary of a company, and a company’s register of directors or register of secretaries, subject to section 5 and the following modifications:

(a) a reference in section 12E or 12F of the Companies Act 1967 to section 12(2)(a), (b) or (c) of that Act is to section 9(2)(a), (b) or (c), respectively;

(b) a reference in section 12F(9) of the Companies Act 1967 to a register kept under section 12(1) of that Act is to a register kept under section 9(1);

(c) a reference to the commencement date is a reference to the date of commencement of section 70 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024.”.

Amendment of section 12

71. In the VCC Act, in section 12(1)(c), replace “or defect” with “, defect or inaccuracy”.

Amendment of section 44

72. In the VCC Act, in section 44 —

(a) in subsection (1), in the definition of “Registered Fund Management Company”, replace the semi-colon at the end with a full-stop;

(b) in subsection (1), delete the definition of “residential address”;

- (c) in subsection (2), replace “sections 69 and 71 to 76” with “sections 69 and 71 to 75”; and
- (d) delete subsection (3).

Amendment of section 71

- 73.** In the VCC Act, in section 71, replace subsection (2) with — 5
- “(2) Section 173F(1), (1A), (3), (4) and (5) of the Companies Act 1967 applies in relation to a register of directors, register of secretaries and register of auditors of a VCC, as it applies in relation to those registers of a company, subject to section 5 and the following modifications: 10
- (a) the reference in section 173F(1) of the Companies Act 1967 to section 149A of that Act is to section 57;
 - (b) the reference in section 173F(1) of the Companies Act 1967 to section 154 of that Act is to section 58;
 - (c) the reference in section 173F(1) of the Companies Act 1967 to section 155A of that Act is to section 60; 15
 - (d) the reference in section 173F(1) of the Companies Act 1967 to section 155D of that Act is to section 61(2), (3), (4) and (5).”.

Amendment of section 72

- 74.** In the VCC Act, in section 72 — 20
- (a) in subsection (2), delete paragraph (a); and
 - (b) in subsection (4), replace “Subject to section 75(4), (5) and (6), a” with “A”.

Replacement of section 75

- 75.** In the VCC Act, replace section 75 with — 25

“Transitional provision on keeping of contact address and residential address of director or secretary

5 **75.** Section 173G (except subsection (6)) of the Companies Act 1967 applies in relation to a VCC, a director or a secretary of a VCC, and a VCC’s register of directors or register of secretaries, as it applies in relation to a company, a director or a secretary of a company, and a company’s register of directors or register of secretaries, subject to section 5 and the following modifications:

10 (a) a reference in section 173G of the Companies Act 1967 to section 12(2)(c) of that Act is to section 9(2)(c); and

15 (b) a reference in section 173G of the Companies Act 1967 to the commencement date is to the date of commencement of section 75 of the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024.”.

Deletion of section 76

76. In the VCC Act, delete section 76.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This Bill seeks to amend the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004 and other ACRA-administered legislation to protect the personal data collected by the Registrar or the Authority, and streamline the regulatory regime for entities under the purview of ACRA. The Bill also makes consequential and related amendments to certain other Acts.

Clause 1 relates to the short title and commencement.

The rest of the Bill is divided into 8 Parts.

PART 1
AMENDMENT OF
ACCOUNTING AND CORPORATE
REGULATORY AUTHORITY ACT 2004

Part 1 consists of clauses 2 to 12 and amends the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004 (ACRA Act).

Clause 2 amends section 6 to provide that the function of the Authority under subsection (1)(c) includes to establish and administer a repository of information and documents relating to business entities and accounting entities (within the meaning of section 35A) and to provide access to such information and documents in accordance with the ACRA Act, the scheduled laws and the disclosure framework. The terms “scheduled law” and “disclosure framework” have the meanings given by section 26, as amended by clause 4.

Clause 3 makes a consequential amendment to the heading of Part 6A of the ACRA Act to refer to the data framework.

Clause 4 amends section 26 to provide definitions of “authorised information service provider”, “disclosure framework”, “prescribed entity”, “prescribed public agency”, “public agency” and “scheduled law”.

Clause 5 amends section 27 to provide that the electronic transaction system may be used to enable the Registrar to issue, give or send documents or information (now provided under new section 28A) and to facilitate the implementation of Part 6A (for example, for the transmission of information provided under new section 30A). The clause inserts a new section 27(3)(aa) to provide that the Registrar may refuse to process a transaction on the electronic transaction system if not all the information and documents required to be submitted to the Registrar in a form mentioned in section 28(1A) have been submitted as required.

Clause 6 amends section 28 to provide in the new subsection (1A) that the Registrar may require a person carrying out a transaction on the electronic transaction system to use a form which requires the submission of information or documents for the transaction or for any other purpose under the ACRA Act or a scheduled law to the Registrar.

Clause 7 inserts a new section 28A to allow the Registrar, the Authority or any other person or body appointed or constituted under the ACRA Act or a scheduled law to issue, give or send information or documents required or permitted under the ACRA Act or the scheduled law to be issued, given or sent to a person by uploading the information or document on the electronic transaction system and notifying the person how and when the person may access the information or document. The notification must be sent to the person’s last email address or in any other prescribed manner.

Clause 8 inserts new sections 30A to 30E.

Section 30A allows prescribed public agencies and prescribed entities to provide information, including personal data, to the Registrar or the Authority at the request of the Registrar or the Authority unless prohibited by any written law.

The information obtained from a prescribed public agency may be used under subsection (2) for any purpose under the ACRA Act or any scheduled law, including to keep or maintain, or to rectify or update, information kept in the repository mentioned in section 6(1)(c) or any register kept under a scheduled Act. For example, the Registrar may update an individual's residential address in a register using information transmitted to the Registrar by the Commissioner of National Registration. Where the Registrar or the Authority uses information mentioned in subsection (2), instead of obtaining it directly from the person who is required to provide it under the ACRA Act or a scheduled law, that person is deemed to have complied with that requirement and is not liable for any error or inaccuracy in the information used under subsection (2) unless the person was asked to verify the information and was given a reasonable opportunity to correct the information.

The information obtained from a prescribed entity may be used to verify the accuracy of any information or document kept or to be kept in the repository mentioned in section 6(1)(c).

The prescribed public agency or prescribed entity, or any person acting on their behalf, has immunity from criminal, civil and disciplinary liability for providing or purporting to provide information under section 30A(1) in good faith and with reasonable care.

Section 30B allows the Registrar or the Authority to provide information or documents from the repository mentioned in section 6(1)(c), including personal data provided to or obtained by the Registrar or the Authority under the ACRA Act or any scheduled law for certain purposes, in accordance with the disclosure framework and subject to any restriction relating to confidentiality under the ACRA Act or a scheduled law.

Section 30C requires an individual's residential address to be excluded from public disclosure under section 30B(1), except in accordance with section 30D and any exception specified in the new Sixth Schedule. Section 30D provides the grounds for causing an individual's residential address to cease to be excluded from public disclosure, and requires the Registrar to give notices to the individual and the interested persons specified in the Sixth Schedule before ceasing such exclusion. The Registrar must consider representations received within the specified time and give further notice when the Registrar decides to cease the exclusion from public disclosure. An aggrieved person may appeal to the Court and the Court may confirm or reverse the Registrar's decision and make any directions in the matter.

Section 30C(3) requires the Registrar to cause the exclusion from public disclosure of an individual's residential address to resume if the Registrar receives notice of the individual's contact address under the ACRA Act or any scheduled Act or if the Court so directs on appeal. Section 30D(8) provides that an individual is not allowed to provide a contact address within 3 years after the Registrar causes the individual's residential address to cease to be excluded from public disclosure, unless the Registrar is satisfied that there is good cause for allowing it. Where a notice of change in the individual's contact address is lodged under any ACRA administered Act, the Registrar must replace the individual's contact address kept in the repository mentioned in section 6(1)(c) with the new contact address.

Section 30E provides for the disclosure framework applicable to information and documents in the repository mentioned in section 6(1)(c), including personal data mentioned in section 30B(1), which is set out in the Sixth Schedule. The Sixth Schedule provides for matters which can be prescribed under section 30E(2). It provides that information obtained under section 28(1A) that is not related to the transaction concerned, or section 30A, must not be disclosed under section 30B, subject to certain exceptions. It also specifies the persons to whom section 30B(1)(b) applies, and specifies the interested persons who must be notified under section 30D(2) and (5).

Clause 9 amends section 35 to allow for regulations to be made for the purposes of section 28A, to require a person to provide an email address for notification under section 28A(1)(b), to prescribe any other manner of such notification and to prescribe the time and circumstances when information or a document is deemed to be issued, given or sent by means of the electronic transaction system.

Clause 10 amends section 42A to allow service at an individual's contact address.

Clause 11 inserts a new Sixth Schedule, which has been explained in relation to section 30E.

Clause 12 makes miscellaneous amendments to certain provisions to replace references to "scheduled Act or Fifth Schedule Act" with "scheduled law" and "scheduled Acts or Fifth Schedule Acts" with "scheduled laws".

PART 2

AMENDMENT OF ACCOUNTANTS ACT 2004

Part 2 consists of clauses 13 to 19 and amends the Accountants Act 2004 (Accountants Act).

Clause 13 amends section 2(1) to provide definitions of "ACRA administered Act", "contact address" and "full name" or "name".

Clause 14 inserts new sections 8A, 8B and 8C which relate to public inspection of contact addresses and residential addresses of individuals.

Section 8A is a transitional provision. It protects the residential address of an individual from public disclosure if the individual maintained an alternate address with the Registrar under the Accountants Act immediately before the commencement date of clause 14. In that case, the Registrar must cause the alternate address to be kept as the individual's contact address and cause the contact address to be made available for public inspection under section 8(2)(b). The Registrar must cause the individual's residential address to be kept as the individual's contact address and made available for public inspection if there is no alternate address maintained immediately before the commencement date of clause 14. The Registrar must also cause the residential address of a former position holder in an accounting corporation or accounting firm or accounting LLP to be excluded from public inspection under section 8(2)(b) if the registers do not show that the individual holds any of the positions mentioned in section 8A(3)(a) on the commencement date.

Section 8B requires the Registrar to cause an individual's residential address to be excluded from public inspection under section 8(2)(b), except in accordance with section 8C. Section 8C provides the grounds for causing an individual's residential address to cease to be excluded from public inspection, and requires the Registrar to give notices to the individual and every accounting LLP or accounting corporation in respect of which the individual's residential address had been recorded in any register maintained under section 8(1). The Registrar must consider representations received within the specified time and give further notice when the Registrar decides to cease the exclusion from public inspection. An aggrieved person may appeal to the Court and the Court may confirm or reverse the Registrar's decision and make any directions in the matter.

Section 8B(3) requires the Registrar to cause the exclusion from public inspection of an individual's residential address to resume if the Registrar receives notice of the individual's contact address under any ACRA administered Act or if the Court so directs on an appeal. Section 8C(8) provides that an individual is not allowed to provide a contact address within 3 years after the Registrar causes the individual's residential address to cease to be excluded from public inspection, unless the Registrar is satisfied that there is good cause for allowing it. Where a notice of change in the individual's contact address is lodged under any ACRA administered Act, the Registrar must replace the individual's contact address in each register maintained under section 8(1) with the new contact address.

Clause 15 amends section 11(2) to require an application made by an individual on or after the commencement date of the clause for registration as a public accountant to contain the individual's contact address.

Clause 16 amends section 12B to provide that the request for a copy of or an extract from a document under subsection (1) does not apply to documents prescribed as excluded documents for the purposes of the new subsection (3). The clause also clarifies that, where a document is submitted on or after the commencement date of the clause using a form on the electronic transaction system, the reference to a document in subsection (1) excludes certain entries in the form. Therefore, such entries will not be included in any copy or extract of the document provided under subsection (1). The new subsection (5) similarly excludes an individual's residential address entered in a form submitted on the electronic transaction system to the Registrar or Oversight Committee from such copies or extracts.

Clause 17 deletes section 12C relating to the alternate address, which is no longer applicable.

Clause 18 makes a consequential amendment to section 14 to add a reference to the public accountant's contact address.

Clause 19 amends section 64A to provide that a document may be served under the Accountants Act on a public accountant if addressed or left at or sent by post to his or her contact address (instead of the alternate address which is no longer applicable).

PART 3

AMENDMENT OF BUSINESS NAMES REGISTRATION ACT 2014

Part 3 consists of clauses 20 to 26 and amends the Business Names Registration Act 2014 (BNR Act).

Clause 20 amends section 2(1) to provide definitions of "ACRA administered Act", "contact address", "electronic transaction system" and "full name" or "name" and delete the definition of "alternate address" which is no longer applicable.

Clause 21 re-enacts section 4(5), omitting the current paragraph (b) (as the definition of "full name" is now in section 2(1)).

Clause 22 amends section 6(1)(b)(iv), (vi)(A) and (vii) to require an application for registration of a business name to contain the contact address of the individual proprietor and the individual partner (if applicable) and the authorised representative.

Clause 23 amends section 11(8) to require the notice of appointment of the authorised representative of an individual proprietor, firm or foreign company mentioned in section 11(1) to contain the authorised representative's contact address, in addition to the residential address.

Clause 24 amends section 28 to insert new subsections (4), (5) and (6). Subsection (4) provides that the request for a copy of or an extract from a document under subsection (1) does not apply to documents prescribed as excluded documents for the purposes of subsection (4). Subsection (5) clarifies that, where a document is submitted on or after the commencement date of the clause using a form on the electronic transaction system, the reference to a document in subsection (1) excludes certain entries in the form. Therefore, such entries will not be included in any copy or extract of the document provided under subsection (1). Subsection (6) requires the Registrar to exclude from such copies or extracts an individual's residential address entered in a form submitted on the electronic transaction system.

Clause 25 replaces section 30 to provide a transitional provision to protect the residential address of an individual from public disclosure if the individual maintained an alternate address with the Registrar under the BNR Act immediately before the commencement date of the clause. In that case, the alternate address is taken to be the individual's contact address for the purposes of the BNR Act until notice of a change of the contact address is lodged under any ACRA administered Act. If there is no such alternate address, the individual's residential address is treated as the individual's contact address until notice of change of the contact address is lodged. Section 30(3) provides that the contact address mentioned in section 30(1) or (2) is deemed to be a particular registered in respect of the person concerned so that the requirement to lodge a notice of change of particulars under section 20(1) will apply.

Clause 26 amends section 42(1) to provide that any document required or authorised to be served under the BNR Act may be served by leaving it with an adult person apparently resident or employed at, or by sending it by ordinary post or prepaid registered post to, the individual's contact address. The clause also amends section 42(4)(c) by replacing the reference to the alternate address (which is no longer applicable) with the contact address so that a summons issued by a court in connection with any offence under the BNR Act may be served on a person by sending it by prepaid registered post in a cover addressed to the person's contact address.

PART 4

AMENDMENT OF COMPANIES ACT 1967

Part 4 consists of clauses 27 to 50 and amends the Companies Act 1967 (Companies Act).

Clause 27 amends section 4(1) to provide definitions of "ACRA administered Act", "contact address", "electronic transaction system" and "full name" or "name" and delete the definition of "alternate address" which is no longer applicable.

Clause 28 amends section 12 to insert new subsections (2AB) and (2AC). Subsection (2AB) provides that the right to inspect or require a copy of or an extract from a document under section 12(2)(a) and (b) does not apply to documents prescribed as excluded documents for the purposes of that subsection. Subsection (2AC) clarifies that, where a document is submitted on or after the commencement date of the provision using a form on the electronic transaction system, the reference to a document in subsection (2)(a) and (b) excludes certain entries in the form. Therefore, such entries will not be included in any copy or extract of the document provided under subsection (2)(a) and (b).

Clause 29 amends section 12D to empower the Registrar to rectify or update any particulars or document in a register if the Registrar is satisfied that the register is inaccurate in respect of the particulars or document, taking account of information given in, or in support of, a notice to the Registrar under section 173A(1) or 173E(1), (2) or (3). The new subsection (1A) provides that subsections (2) to (5) (which require the Registrar to give notice of the proposed rectification or updating and allows for written objections) do not apply to the exercise of this power. Consequential amendments are made to subsections (6) and (7).

Clause 30 inserts new sections 12E and 12F (to make provision in relation to public inspection or access under section 12(2) in respect of the contact address and residential address of a director, chief executive director or secretary of a company or a member of a private company) which are similar to new sections 8B and 8C of the Accountants Act (in clause 14).

Clause 31 makes a consequential amendment to section 13.

Clause 32 amends section 63(1)(e) to require a return of the allotment of new shares of a private company to include the contact address of each member of the private company (if the member is an individual).

Clause 33 amends section 63A(1)(e) to require a return of the allotment of shares of a public company to include the contact address of each of the 50 members of the public company who hold the most shares in the company following the allotment (if the member is an individual).

Clause 34 amends section 173 to require the register of directors, the register of chief executive officers and the register of secretaries of a company to contain the contact address of each director, chief executive officer and secretary, respectively. The clause also re-enacts subsection (11) without paragraph (a) because “full name” and “name” will be defined in section 4(1). Subsections (12) and (13), which relate to alternate addresses, are deleted as they are no longer required. Subsection (14) is amended to provide that a document required to be served under the Companies Act on a director, chief executive officer or secretary is sufficiently served if it is left at or sent to the individual’s contact address.

Clause 35 deletes section 173A(2), which relates to alternate addresses, as it is no longer required.

Clause 36 deletes section 173B(4), which relates to alternate addresses, as it is no longer required.

Clause 37 amends the section heading of section 173D to clarify that the provision relates to particulars lodged before 3 January 2016.

Clause 38 amends section 173E(4) to allow notice of change of contact address (instead of the alternate address which is no longer required) to be given to the Registrar by a director, chief executive officer or secretary of a company if he or she has reasonable cause to believe that the company will not do so.

Clause 39 replaces section 173F(1) with 2 subsections. The new subsection (1) allows the Registrar to amend the register of directors of a company on the Registrar's own initiative to indicate that a person has been disqualified from being or acting as a director by virtue of section 148, 149, 149A, 154, 155, 155A, 155C or 155D where the Registrar has reasonable cause to believe that the director has been so disqualified. The new subsection (1A) re-enacts the Registrar's power to amend that register to indicate that a person has ceased to be a director if the Registrar has reasonable cause to believe that the person is dead. Consequential amendments are made to the section heading and subsection (5).

Clause 40 replaces section 173G with a transitional provision on the keeping of a contact address and residential address of a director, chief executive officer or secretary. It protects the residential address of an individual from public disclosure if the individual maintained an alternate address with the Registrar under the Companies Act immediately before the commencement date of the clause. In that case, the Registrar must cause the alternate address to be kept as the individual's contact address and cause the contact address to be made available for public inspection under section 12(2)(c). The Registrar must cause the individual's residential address to be kept as the individual's contact address and made available for public inspection if there is no alternate address maintained immediately before the commencement date. The Registrar must also cause the residential address of a former position holder in a company to be excluded from public inspection and access under section 12(2)(c) if the registers do not show that the individual holds any of the positions mentioned in the new subsection (3) on the commencement date. The new subsections (4) and (5) clarify that the contact address must be provided in a notice or information furnished or given under section 173A or 173B on or after the commencement date, despite relating to an appointment or change in appointment that occurred before that date.

Clause 41 deletes references to the repealed section 173G in section 173H.

Clause 42 replaces section 196A(2)(a)(ii) to require the electronic register of a private company to contain the contact address of its members.

Clause 43 inserts a new section 196E which is a transitional provision requiring the Registrar, on the commencement date of the clause, to cause the address of each member of a private company (who is an individual) kept in the electronic register of members of the private company to be kept as the member's residential address and also the contact address and to make the contact address available for public inspection and access under section 12(2)(d).

Clause 44 amends section 215B(1)(ca) to require an amalgamation proposal to contain the contact address of every director of the amalgamated company which is contained in the register of directors kept by the Registrar.

Clause 45 amends section 368 to require every foreign company, before it establishes a place of business or commences business in Singapore, to lodge the contact address of each of its directors and authorised representatives, and allows documents required to be served under the Companies Act to be served at that contact address.

Clause 46 amends the section heading of section 368B to clarify that the section only applies to the particulars of directors and authorised representatives lodged before 3 January 2016.

Clause 47 replaces section 370A with a transitional provision for the contact address of director or authorised representative of foreign company similar to the new section 173G.

Clause 48 amends section 373 to provide relief for foreign companies from certain requirements relating to the requirement to lodge financial statements with the Registrar.

Clause 49 amends section 376 to provide that a document required to be served on a foreign company is sufficiently served if addressed to an authorised representative of the company and left at or sent by post at his or her residential address or contact address.

Clause 50 makes a consequential amendment to the statement in lieu of prospectus under section 60(1) in the Sixth Schedule to refer to the contact addresses of directors, instead of their alternate addresses.

PART 5

AMENDMENT OF INSOLVENCY, RESTRUCTURING AND DISSOLUTION ACT 2018

Clause 51 amends section 254 of the Insolvency, Restructuring and Dissolution Act 2018 to make amendments similar to those made to section 12 of the Companies Act by clause 28 and to insert a new subsection (2A) to allow persons

to require the Registrar to provide or to certify a copy of or an extract from any document kept by the Registrar of Companies.

PART 6
AMENDMENT OF
LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIPS ACT 2005

Part 6 consists of clauses 52 to 58 and amends the Limited Liability Partnerships Act 2005 (LLP Act).

Clause 52 amends section 2(1) to provide definitions of “ACRA administered Act”, “contact address” and “full name” or “name” and delete the definition of “alternate address” which is no longer applicable.

Clause 53 amends section 19(1)(d)(iv) and (f)(iv) to require an application for registration of a limited liability partnership to contain the contact address of each partner and manager of the limited liability partnership who is an individual.

Clause 54 amends section 34 to insert a new subsection (9) to require the statement lodged on or after the commencement date of the clause, in relation to the appointment of a new partner or new manager, to contain the particulars mentioned in section 19(1)(d) and (f) (as the case may be) as in force when the statement is lodged, despite the appointment being before the commencement date.

Clause 55 amends section 35 to insert a new subsection (5) to require information given on or after the commencement date of the clause by a partner or manager in relation to his or her appointment to be in accordance with section 19(1)(d) or (f) (as the case may be) as in force when the information is given, despite the appointment being before the commencement date.

Clause 56 amends section 36 to make amendments similar to the amendments made to section 28 of the BNR Act by clause 24.

Clause 57 replaces section 37 to provide similarly to section 30 of the BNR Act as replaced by clause 25.

Clause 58 amends section 94 to allow service at the contact address of a partner or manager of a limited liability partnership (who is an individual).

PART 7
AMENDMENT OF
LIMITED PARTNERSHIPS ACT 2008

Part 7 consists of clauses 59 to 66 and amends the Limited Partnerships Act 2008 (LP Act).

Clause 59 amends section 2(1) to provide definitions of “ACRA administered Act”, “contact address” and “full name” or “name” and delete the definition of “alternate address” which is no longer applicable.

Clause 60 amends section 11(1)(e)(iv) and (h)(iv) to require an application for registration of a limited partnership to contain the contact address of each partner and local manager of the limited partnership who is an individual.

Clause 61 amends section 18 to insert a new subsection (8) to require the statement lodged on or after the commencement date of the clause, in relation to the appointment of a new partner or new local manager, to contain the particulars mentioned in section 11(1)(e) and (h) (as the case may be) as in force when the statement is lodged, despite the appointment being before the commencement date.

Clause 62 amends section 18A to insert a new subsection (4) to require information given on or after the commencement date of the clause by a partner or local manager in relation to his or her appointment to be in accordance with section 11(1)(e) or (h) (as the case may be) as in force when the information is given, despite the appointment having taken place before the commencement date.

Clause 63 amends section 18B to make amendments similar to the amendments made to section 28 of the BNR Act by clause 24.

Clause 64 replaces section 18C to provide similarly to section 30 of the BNR Act as replaced by clause 25.

Clause 65 amends section 40(2)(c) to allow the service of summons issued by a court in connection with an offence under the LP Act to be served by registered post at the person’s contact address.

Clause 66 amends section 40A to allow service of documents at the contact address of a partner or local manager of a limited partnership (who is an individual).

PART 8

AMENDMENT OF VARIABLE CAPITAL COMPANIES ACT 2018

Part 8 consists of clauses 67 to 76 and amends the Variable Capital Companies Act 2018 (VCC Act).

Clause 67 amends section 2(1) to insert a definition of “full name” or “name”.

Clause 68 amends section 5 to insert a new subsection (3AA) to allow further modifications to sections 12E, 12F, 173F and 173G of the Companies Act in its application by the VCC Act to be made for a period of 2 years after the commencement date of clause 70.

Clause 69 amends section 9 to insert new subsections (3A) and (3B) to make amendments similar to the amendments made to section 12 of the Companies Act by clause 28.

Clause 70 inserts a new section 11A which applies sections 12E (except subsection (1)(b)) and 12F (except subsection (2)(c)) of the Companies Act in relation to a VCC, a director or secretary of a VCC, and the register of directors or register of secretaries, subject to certain modifications.

Clause 71 makes a consequential amendment to section 12(1)(c).

Clause 72 makes consequential amendments to section 44.

Clause 73 replaces section 71(2) so that it applies section 173F(1), (1A), (3), (4) and (5) of the Companies Act in relation to a register of directors, register of secretaries and register of auditors of a VCC, with certain modifications.

Clause 74 makes consequential amendments to section 72.

Clause 75 replaces section 75 to provide for section 173G (except subsection (6)) of the Companies Act to apply in relation to a VCC, a director or a secretary of a VCC, and a VCC's register of directors or register of secretaries, with certain modifications.

Clause 76 deletes section 76 as it is no longer required.

EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC MONEY

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