A BILL

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An Act to amend the Police Act 1967.

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ENACTED by the Parliament of Malaysia as follows:

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Police (Amendment) Act 2024.

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New section 6A

2. The Police Act 1967 [*Act 344*], which is referred to as the "principal Act" in this Act, is amended by inserting after section 6 the following section:

"Honorary Commissioner-in-Chief

6A. The Yang di-Pertuan Agong shall be the Honorary Commissioner-in-Chief of the Royal Malaysia Police.".

Amendment of section 17

3. Subsection 17(2) of the principal Act is amended by substituting for the words "one hundred ringgit" the words "five thousand ringgit".

Amendment of section 21

- 4. Section 21 of the principal Act is amended-
 - (a) in subsection (1)-
 - (i) by deleting the word "and" at the end of paragraph (b);
 - (ii) in paragraph (c), by substituting for the full stop the words "; and"; and
 - (iii) by inserting after paragraph (c) the following paragraph:
 - "(d) to conduct any escort duty."; and
 - (b) in subsection (2), by substituting for the words "two hundred ringgit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months" the words "ten thousand ringgit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years".

Amendment of section 26

5. Subsection 26(2) of the principal Act is amended by substituting for the words "one thousand ringgit" the words "two thousand ringgit".

Amendment of section 66

6. Subsection 66(2) of the principal Act is amended by substituting for the words "one thousand ringgit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months" the words "two thousand ringgit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year".

New section 74A

7. The principal Act is amended by inserting after section 74 the following section:

"Power to investigate offences against discipline

74A. (1) Any police officer not below the rank of Sergeant shall have power to conduct an investigation into any offence against discipline under this Act.

(2) The police officer conducting an investigation under subsection (1) may-

- (a) gather any evidence and examine any person that he considers necessary;
- (b) require any person to attend before him to give evidence or produce any document or other things in his possession; or
- (c) take any action as may be necessary to obtain further clarification on matters relating to the offences against discipline under his investigation.".

Amendment of section 86

8. Subsection 86(1) of the principal Act is amended by substituting for the words "twenty-one days" the words "fourteen days".

Amendment of section 94

9. Section 94 of the principal Act is amended by substituting for the words "five hundred ringgit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months" the words "five thousand ringgit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year".

Amendment of First Schedule

10. The First Schedule to the principal Act is amended in item 1 by deleting the words "Senior Inspector".

Bill

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This Bill seeks to amend the Police Act 1967 ("Act 344").

2. Clause 1 contains the short title of the proposed Act.

3. *Clause 2* seeks to introduce a new section 6A into Act 344 to provide that the Yang di-Pertuan Agong shall be the Honorary Commissioner-in-Chief of the Royal Malaysia Police.

4. *Clause 3* seeks to amend section 17 of Act 344 to increase the maximum fine from one hundred ringgit to five thousand ringgit for the offence under that provision which relates to a police officer who ceases to be a member of the Force but fails to deliver to the person appointed by the Inspector General or to the police officer in charge of any part of the Royal Malaysia Police his certificate of appointment, arms, ammunition, accoutrement, uniform and other equipment which have been supplied to him.

5. *Clause 4* seeks to amend section 21 of Act 344 to provide for the duty of a police officer to conduct an escort duty on any public road and to increase the maximum fine from two hundred ringgit to ten thousand ringgit and imprisonment from three months to two years for the offence under that provision which relates to any person who obstructs, opposes or disobeys any reasonable direction given by any police officer.

6. *Clause 5* seeks to amend section 26 of Act 344 to increase the maximum fine from one thousand ringgit to two thousand ringgit for the offence under that provision which relates to any person who fails to comply with any reasonable signal of a police officer requiring any person or vehicle to stop before reaching any barrier erected or placed by any police officer.

7. *Clause* 6 seeks to amend section 66 of Act 344 to increase the maximum fine from one thousand ringgit to two thousand ringgit and imprisonment from six months to one year for the offence under that provision which relates to any employer who fails to re-employ any reserve police officer.

8. *Clause* 7 seeks to introduce a new section 74A into Act 344 to empower a police officer not below the rank of Sergeant to investigate disciplinary offences under Act 344. The police officer conducting the investigation may gather any evidence and examine any person that he considers necessary, require any person to attend before him to give evidence or produce any document or other things in his possession or take any action as may be necessary to obtain further clarification on matters relating to disciplinary offences under his investigation.

9. *Clause* 8 seeks to amend section 86 of Act 344 to provide that a police officer who absents from duty for a continuous period of fourteen days without reasonable cause shall be deemed to have deserted and shall be guilty of an offence.

10. *Clause* 9 seeks to amend section 94 of Act 344 to increase the maximum fine from five hundred ringgit to five thousand ringgit and imprisonment from six months to one year for general penalty for an offence for which no penalty is expressly provided under Act 344.

11. *Clause 10* seeks to amend the First Schedule to Act 344 to delete the reference to Senior Inspector since Senior Inspector is no longer being used in the ranks of the Royal Malaysia Police.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

[PN(U2)3340]