

Unofficial Translation

Parliamentary Administration Act,
B.E. 2554 (2011)

BHUMIBOL ADULYADEJ, REX.

Given on the 3rd Day of May B.E. 2554 (2011);

Being the 66th Year of the Present Reign.

His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej is graciously pleased to proclaim that:

Whereas it is expedient to revise the law on the organisation of parliamentary administration;

Be it, therefore, enacted by the King, by and with the advice and consent of the National Assembly, as follows:

Section 1 This Act is called the "Parliamentary Administration Act, B.E. 2554 (2011)".

Section 2 This Act shall come into force as from the day following the date of its publication in the Government Gazette.

Section 3 The following shall be repealed:

- (1) The Organisation of Parliamentary Administration Act, B.E. 2518 (1975);
- (2) The Organisation of Parliamentary Administration Act (No. 2), B.E. 2535 (1992);

*Translated by Bureau of Foreign Languages, the Secretariat of the House of Representatives.

**Edited by Ms. Arriya Phasee under contract with the Office of the Secretariat of the House of Representatives.

*** Published in the Government Gazette dated 3rd Day of May B.E. 2554 (2011).

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Section 4 In this Act:

“President of the National Assembly” means the President of the National Assembly as stipulated in the Constitution;

“Vice-President of the National Assembly” means the Vice-President of the National Assembly as stipulated in the Constitution;

“POC” means the Parliamentary Officials Commission as stipulated in the law on rules of parliamentary officials;

“The House of Representatives” means the House of Representatives as stipulated in the Constitution;

“The Senate” means the Senate as stipulated in the Constitution;

“National Assembly” means the House of Representatives and the Senate as stipulated in the Constitution.

Section 5 The administration under this Act shall be in accordance with the methods for good administration of State affairs, as appropriate for each task.

For the purpose of the implementation according to paragraph one, the POC may issue National Assembly Rules or Announcements stipulating rules and procedures for performing official duties and ordering the implementation thereof for government agencies of the National Assembly and parliamentary officials.

The National Assembly Rules or Announcements under paragraph two shall be signed by the President of the National Assembly and published in the Government Gazette.

Section 6 There shall be the following government agencies of the National Assembly:

- (1) the Secretariat of the House of Representatives;
- (2) the Secretariat of the Senate;
- (3) the government agencies named otherwise.

The government agencies under (1) (2) and (3) shall have a status of juristic person being independent in the administration of personnel, budgeting and other functions as stipulated in this Act and the law on rules of parliamentary officials.

Section 7 The establishment and the prescription of powers and duties of government agencies and heads of government agencies under section 6 (3) shall be prescribed in an Act.

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The merger, transfer or dissolution of government agencies under section 6 shall be prescribed in an Act.

Section 8 The merger or transfer of government agencies under section 6, whether resulting in establishing a new government agency or not, if there is no additional prescription of positions or manpower of government officials, government employees or employees, shall be prescribed in a National Assembly Announcement with approval of the National Assembly.

The National Assembly Announcement under paragraph one shall specify powers and duties of the government agency, the transfer of the legitimate powers and duties formerly held by that government agency, the transfer of government officials, government employees and employees, expenditure budget, including properties and liabilities, as the case may be. Such Announcement shall be signed by the President of the National Assembly and published in the Government Gazette.

Section 9 Any change of name of government agencies under section 6 shall be prescribed in a National Assembly Announcement with approval of the POC. In the case where the position titles of government officials of that government agency have changed, such change shall also be specified in the National Assembly Announcement.

The National Assembly Announcement under paragraph one shall be signed by the President of the National Assembly and published in the Government Gazette.

Section 10 The Secretariat of the House of Representatives shall have powers and duties regarding general and regular civil services of the House of Representatives, having the Secretary-General of the House of Representatives as the superior of government officials, government employees and employees and being responsible for the civil services and directly reporting to the Speaker of the House of Representatives. There shall be a Deputy Secretary-General of the House of Representatives to assist in giving orders and performing official duties. There may be an Assistant Secretary-General of the House of Representatives to assist in giving orders and performing official duties.

The Deputy Secretary-General of the House of Representatives and Assistant Secretary-General of the House of Representatives shall have powers and duties as designated or assigned by the Secretary-General of the House of Representatives.

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The Secretary-General of the House of Representatives, the Deputy Secretary-General of the House of Representatives and the Assistant Secretary-General of the House of Representatives shall be an ordinary parliamentary official.

Section 11 The Secretariat of the Senate shall have powers and duties regarding general and regular civil services of the Senate, having the Secretary-General of the Senate as the superior of government officials, government employees and employees and being responsible for the civil services and directly reporting to the President of the Senate. There shall be a Deputy Secretary-General of the Senate to assist in giving orders and performing official duties. There may be an Assistant Secretary-General of the Senate to assist in giving orders and performing official duties.

The Deputy Secretary-General of the Senate and Assistant Secretary-General of the Senate shall have powers and duties as designated or assigned by the Secretary-General of the Senate.

The Secretary-General of the Senate, the Deputy Secretary-General of the Senate and the Assistant Secretary-General of the Senate shall be an ordinary parliamentary official.

Section 12 The organisation of the Secretariat of the House of Representatives, the Secretariat of the Senate or government agencies under section 6 (3) shall be prescribed in a National Assembly Announcement with approval of the POC. Powers and duties of such individual agencies shall also be specified therein.

The government agencies under paragraph one may be divided into bureaus or agencies which are otherwise named with status equivalent to bureaus.

In the case where there is necessity, the government agencies may be divided into other government agencies apart from those prescribed in paragraph two.

The Government agencies under paragraph two and paragraph three shall have powers and duties as prescribed to be those of each particular agency. There shall be directors of bureaus or heads of government agencies named otherwise as the superior of government officials and being in charge of the performance of official duties.

The POC shall consider the internal organisation of such government agencies and the prescription of powers and duties thereof under this section.

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The National Assembly Announcement under paragraph one shall be signed by the President of the National Assembly and published in the Government Gazette.

Section 13 The government agencies of the National Assembly under section 6 shall present an estimate of the budget to the Council of Ministers for the purpose of appropriating subsidies of the government agencies of the National Assembly under section 6 in an Annual Appropriations Bill or a Supplementary Appropriations Bill, as the case may be. In this regard, the Council of Ministers may also prepare its opinion on the appropriation of the budget of government agencies of the National Assembly under section 6 to be included in the report accompanying the introduction of the Annual Appropriations Bill or the Supplementary Appropriations Bill. In the consideration of such bills, the Council of Ministers, the House of Representatives, the Senate or the Committees concerned may request the government agencies under section 6 to provide an explanation in support of the consideration.

Section 14 Government agencies of the National Assembly under section 6 shall be Office of State Auditors in accordance with the organic law on State audit.

Section 15 The POC shall have powers to issue National Assembly Rules or Announcements pertaining to general affairs administration, budgeting, finance and properties, and other functions of government agencies of the National Assembly, in particular the following matters:

(1) acting and acting on behalf of the President of the National Assembly, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate and ordinary parliamentary officials;

(2) appointment of persons to perform duties for the interests of the works of the National Assembly, the House of Representatives, the Senate, members of the House of Representatives, members of the Senate, members of the Committees of the House of Representatives or the Senate and government agencies of the National Assembly, including prescription of remuneration rates;

(3) prescription of meeting allowances, remunerations or other benefits for the POC, Parliamentary Officials Sub-Commissions and other Commissions as well as persons appointed to perform any official duties;

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(4) management and administration of budget and supplies of government agencies of the National Assembly;

(5) prescription of procedures, conditions and wage rates for employing government employees and employees of government agencies of the National Assembly as well as determination of uniforms and wearing uniforms, working days and hours, traditional public holidays, annual public holidays, official leave, special remunerations, temporary cost-of-living allowances and the provision of other welfare or assistance for government employees and employees of government agencies of the National Assembly;

(6) establishment of rules for the performance of official duties to ensure rapid and efficient parliamentary administration in so far as they are not inconsistent with or contrary to this Act or other laws.

The National Assembly Rules or Announcements under paragraph one shall be signed by the President of the National Assembly and published in the Government Gazette.

Section 16 Ordinary parliamentary officials who hold office as parliamentary police officers shall keep order and provide personnel and property safety within the area of the National Assembly.

In performing the duties under paragraph one, parliamentary police officers shall be officers under the Criminal Code and have the same powers and duties as an administrative or police official under the Criminal Procedure Code within the area of the National Assembly.

Section 17 At the initial term, any laws, rules, regulations or orders which are applicable to civil servants, government employees or employees shall apply to parliamentary officials, government employees or employees of government agencies of the National Assembly *mutatis mutandis* in so far as they are not inconsistent with or contrary to this Act or the law on rules of parliamentary officials until the National Assembly Rules or Announcements under section 15 come into force.

Section 18 All authorities in issuing an order, providing permission, giving an approval or performing official duties prescribed by any law, rule, regulation or order as the authorities of the Council of Ministers shall be those of the POC only with respect to the civil service of government agencies of the National Assembly until the National Assembly Rules or Announcements under section 15 come into force.

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All authorities in issuing an order, providing permission, giving an approval or performing official duties prescribed by any law, rule, regulation or order as the authorities of the Prime Minister shall be those of the President of the National Assembly. The authorities of the Minister in charge shall be those of the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the Secretariat of the House of Representatives or those of the President of the Senate for the Secretariat of the Senate or those of the President of the National Assembly for government agencies under section 6 (3), and the authorities of the Permanent-Secretary shall be those of the Secretary-General of the House of Representatives, the Secretary-General of the Senate or heads of government agencies under section 6 (3) only with respect to the civil service of the agencies attached thereto until the National Assembly Regulations or Announcements under section 15 come into force.

Section 19 The Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General and Assistant Secretary-General of the House of Representatives of the Secretariat of the House of Representatives and the Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General and Assistant Secretary-General of the Senate of the Secretariat of the Senate under the Organisation of Parliamentary Administration Act, B.E. 2518 (1975), who hold office on the date on which this Act comes into force, shall be the Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General and Assistant Secretary-General of the House of Representatives of the Secretariat of the House of Representatives and the Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General and Assistant Secretary-General of the Senate of the Secretariat of the Senate under this Act, as the case may be.

Section 20 The ordinary parliamentary officials in the position of security officer under the Organisation of Parliamentary Administration Act, B.E. 2518 (1975), who hold office on the date on which this Act comes into force, shall be parliamentary police officers under this Act.

Section 21 All National Assembly Announcements, POC Rules, POC Announcements, POC Resolutions or Orders issued under the Organisation of Parliamentary Administration Act, B.E. 2518 (1975) in effect prior to or on the date on which this Act comes into force, shall continue in force only in so far as they are not inconsistent with or contrary to this Act until the National Assembly Rules or Announcements, POC Resolutions or Orders under this Act come into force.

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Section 22 All businesses, properties, rights, liabilities, government officials, government employees, employees and budgets of the Secretariat of the House of Representatives and the Secretariat of the Senate under the Organisation of Parliamentary Administration Act, B.E. 2518 (1975) shall be transferred to the Secretariat of the House of Representatives and the Secretariat of the Senate under this Act, as the case may be.

Section 23 The President of the National Assembly shall have charge and control over the execution of this act.

Countersigned by:

Abhisit Vejjajiva

Prime Minister

Remark: The reason for the promulgation of this Act is as follows: Whereas the Organisation of Parliamentary Administration Act, B.E. 2518 (1975) has already been in force for a long time resulting in certain provisions being inconsistent with development changes in the government administration. Therefore in order to align the parliamentary administration with the changing government administration, it is expedient to revise such law by prescribing that government agencies of the National Assembly shall be allocated budget as subsidies and the Parliamentary Officials Commission shall have powers to issue National Assembly Rules or Announcements regarding the general affairs administration, budgeting, finance and properties and other functions of government agencies of the National Assembly. It is, therefore, necessary to enact this Act.

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