

## No. 16 OF 1931.

A LAW TO AMEND THE LAW RELATING TO THE FORMATION OF COMPANIES WITH LIMITED LIABILITY. A.D. 1931.  
16 of 1931.

H. HENNIKER-HEATON.]

[July 25, 1931.]

BE it enacted:—

1. This Law may be cited as the Companies (Limited Liability) Law, 1931, and shall be read as one with the Companies (Limited Liability) Law, 1922, (hereinafter referred to as the principal Law), and the principal Law and this Law may together be cited as the Companies (Limited Liability) Laws, 1922 and 1931. Short title.

2. The following words, marginal notes and sections shall be inserted in the principal Law between section 61 and the words "Certificates of Shares, etc.":— Amendment  
of principal  
Law.

*"Issue of Redeemable Preference Shares.*

61A.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this section, a company limited by shares may, if so authorized by its articles, issue preference shares which are, or at the option of the company are to be liable, to be redeemed: Power to  
issue re-  
deemable  
preference  
shares.

Provided that—

(a) no such shares shall be redeemed except out of profits of the company which would otherwise be available for dividend or out of the proceeds of a fresh issue of shares made for the purposes of the redemption;

(b) no such shares shall be redeemed unless they are fully paid;

(c) where any such shares are redeemed otherwise than out of the proceeds of a fresh issue, there shall out of profits which would otherwise have been available for dividend be transferred to a reserve fund, to be called "the capital redemption reserve fund," a sum equal to the amount applied in redeeming the shares, and the provisions of this Law relating to the reduction of the share capital of a company shall, except as provided in this section, apply as if the capital redemption reserve fund were paid-up share capital of the company;

(d) where any such shares are redeemed out of the proceeds of a fresh issue, the premium, if any, payable on redemption, must have been provided for out of the profits of the company before the shares are redeemed.

(2) There shall be included in every balance sheet of a company which has issued redeemable preference shares a statement specifying what part of the issued capital of the company consists of such shares and the date on or before which those shares are, or are to be liable, to be redeemed.

If a company fails to comply with the provisions of this sub-section, the company and every director, manager, secretary or other officer of the company who is in default shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds.

(3) Subject to the provisions of this section, the redemption of preference shares thereunder may be effected on such terms and in such manner as may be provided by the articles of the company.

(4) Where in pursuance of this section a company has redeemed or is about to redeem any preference shares, it shall have power to issue shares up to the nominal amount of the shares redeemed or to be redeemed as if those shares had never been issued, and accordingly the share capital of the company shall not for the purposes of any enactments relating to stamp duty be deemed to be increased by the issue of shares in pursuance of this sub-section :

Provided that, where new shares are issued before the redemption of the old shares, the new shares shall not, so far as relates to stamp duty, be deemed to have been issued in pursuance of this sub-section unless the old shares are redeemed within one month after the issue of the new shares.

(5) Where new shares have been issued in pursuance of the last foregoing sub-section, the capital redemption reserve fund may, notwithstanding anything in this section, be applied by the company, up to an amount equal to the nominal amount of the shares so issued, in paying up unissued shares of the company to be issued to members of the company as fully paid bonus shares.

61B.—(1) If a company having a share capital has redeemed any redeemable preference shares, it shall within one month after so doing give notice thereof to the Registrar of Companies specifying the shares redeemed.

Notice to Registrar of redemption of redeemable preference shares.

(2) If default is made in complying with this section, the company and every director, manager, secretary or other officer of the company who is in default shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five pounds for every day during which the default continues.

### *Reduction of Share Capital.*

61C.—(1) Subject to confirmation by the Court, a company limited by shares may, if so authorized by its articles, by special resolution reduce its share capital in any way, and in particular, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, may—

Special resolution for reduction of share capital.

(a) extinguish or reduce the liability on any of its shares in respect of share capital not paid up ; or

(b) either with or without extinguishing or reducing liability on any of its shares, cancel any paid-up share capital which is lost or unrepresented by available assets ; or

(c) either with or without extinguishing or reducing liability on any of its shares, pay off any paid-up share capital which is in excess of the wants of the company, and may, if and so far as is necessary, alter its memorandum by reducing the amounts of its share capital and of its shares accordingly.

(2) A special resolution under this section is in this Law referred to as “a resolution for reducing share capital.”

61D.—(1) Where a company has passed a resolution for reducing share capital, it may apply by petition to the Court for an order confirming the reduction.

Application to Court for confirming order, objections by creditors, and settlement of list of objecting creditors.

(2) Where the proposed reduction of share capital involves either diminution of liability in respect of unpaid share capital or the payment to any shareholder of any paid-up share capital, and in any other case if the Court so directs, the following provisions shall have

effect, subject nevertheless to the next following sub-section :—

(a) Every creditor of the company who at the date fixed by the Court is entitled to any debt or claim which, if that date were the commencement of the winding up of the company, would be admissible in proof against the company, shall be entitled to object to the reduction:

(b) The Court shall settle a list of creditors so entitled to object, and for that purpose shall ascertain, as far as possible without requiring an application from any creditor, the names of those creditors and the nature and amount of their debts or claims, and may publish notices fixing a day or days within which creditors not entered on the list are to claim to be so entered or are to be excluded from the right of objecting to the reduction :

(c) Where a creditor entered on the list whose debt or claim is not discharged or has not determined does not consent to the reduction, the Court may, if it thinks fit, dispense with the consent of that creditor, on the company securing payment of his debt or claim by appropriating, as the Court may direct, the following amount :—

(i.) If the company admits the full amount of the debt or claim, or, though not admitting it, is willing to provide for it, then the full amount of the debt or claim ;

(ii.) If the company does not admit and is not willing to provide for the full amount of the debt or claim, or if the amount is contingent or not ascertained, then an amount fixed by the Court after the like inquiry and adjudication as if the company were being wound up by the Court.

(3) Where a proposed reduction of share capital involves either the diminution of any liability in respect of unpaid share capital or the payment to any shareholder of any paid-up share capital, the Court may, if having regard to any special circumstances of the case it thinks proper so to do, direct that sub-section (2) of this section shall not apply as regards any class or any classes of creditors.

61E.—(1) The Court, if satisfied, with respect to every creditor of the company who under the last foregoing section is entitled to object to the reduction, that either his consent to the reduction has been obtained or his debt or claim has been discharged or has determined, or has been secured, may make an order confirming the reduction on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit.

Order confirming reduction and powers of Court on making such order.

(2) Where the Court makes any such order, it may—

(a) if for any special reason it thinks proper so to do, make an order directing that the company shall, during such period, commencing on or at any time after the date of the order, as is specified in the order, add to its name as the last words thereof the words “and reduced”; and

(b) make an order requiring the company to publish as the Court directs the reasons for reduction or such other information in regard thereto as the Court may think expedient with a view to giving proper information to the public, and, if the Court thinks fit, the causes which led to the reduction.

(3) Where a company is ordered to add to its name the words “and reduced”, those words shall, until the expiration of the period specified in the order, be deemed to be part of the name of the company.

61F.—(1) The Registrar of Companies, on production to him of an order of the Court confirming the reduction of the share capital of a company, and the delivery to him of a copy of the order and of a minute approved by the Court, showing with respect to the share capital of the company, as altered by the order, the amount of the share capital, the number of shares into which it is to be divided, and the amount of each share, and the amount, if any, at the date of the registration deemed to be paid up on each share, shall register the order and minute.

Registration of order and minute of reduction.

(2) On the registration of the order and minute, and not before, the resolution for reducing share capital as confirmed by the order so registered shall take effect.

(3) Notice of the registration shall be published in such manner as the Court may direct.

(4) The Registrar shall certify under his hand the registration of the order and minute, and his certificate shall be conclusive evidence that all the requirements of

this Law with respect to reduction of share capital have been complied with, and that the share capital of the company is such as is stated in the minute.

(5) The minute when registered shall be deemed to be substituted for the corresponding part of the memorandum, and shall be valid and alterable as if it had been originally contained therein.

(6) The substitution of any such minute as aforesaid for part of the memorandum of the company shall be deemed to be an alteration of the memorandum, and every copy of the memorandum issued after the date of the alteration shall be in accordance with the alteration.

If the company at any time after the date of the alteration issues any copies of the memorandum which are not in accordance with the alteration, it shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one pound for each copy so issued, and every director, manager, secretary or other officer of the company who is in default shall be liable to the like penalty.

61G.—(1) In the case of a reduction of share capital, a member of the company, past or present, shall not be liable in respect of any share to any call or contribution exceeding in amount the difference, if any, between the amount of the share as fixed by the minute and the amount paid, or the reduced amount, if any, which is to be deemed to have been paid, on the share, as the case may be :

Provided that, if any creditor, entitled in respect of any debt or claim to object to the reduction of share capital, is, by reason of his ignorance of the proceedings for reduction, or of their nature and effect with respect to his claim, not entered on the list of creditors, and, after the reduction, the company is unable, within the meaning of the provisions of this Law with respect to winding up by the Court, to pay the amount of his debt or claim, then—

(a) every person who was a member of the company at the date of the registration of the order for reduction and minute, shall be liable to contribute for the payment of that debt or claim an amount not exceeding the amount which he would have been liable to contribute if the company had commenced to be wound up on the day before the said date ; and

Liability of  
members in  
respect of  
reduced  
shares.

(b) if the company is wound up, the Court, on the application of any such creditor and proof of his ignorance as aforesaid, may, if it thinks fit, settle accordingly a list of persons so liable to contribute, and make and enforce calls and orders on the contributories settled on the list, as if they were ordinary contributories in a winding up.

(2) Nothing in this section shall affect the rights of the contributories among themselves.

61H.--If any director, manager, secretary or other officer of the company—

(a) wilfully conceals the name of any creditor entitled to object to the reduction ; or

(b) wilfully misrepresents the nature or amount of the debt or claim of any creditor ; or

(c) aids, abets or is privy to any such concealment or misrepresentation as aforesaid,

he shall be guilty of a misdemeanour and shall be liable on conviction therefor to the penalties prescribed in the Cyprus Criminal Code, 1928 and 1931.”

Penalty on concealment of name of creditor.

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of the 25th July, 1931.*