FEMALE TITLE ACT, B.E. 2551 (2008)¹

BHUMIBOL ADULYADEJ, REX; Given on the 31st Day of January B.E. 2551; Being the 63rd Year of the Present Reign.

His Majesty King BhumibolAdulyadej is graciously pleased to proclaim; Whereas it is expedient to have a law on female title;

This Act contains certain provisions in relation to the restriction of rights and liberties of persons, in respect of which section 29, in conjunction with section 32 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand so permit by virtue of the provisions law;

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

Section 1. This Act is called the "Female Title Act, B.E. 2551 (2008)"

Section 2.This Act shall come into force afterthe expiration of one hundred and twenty days from the date of its publication in the Government Gazette.

Section 3.This Act does not affect the use of female title in other manner as prescribed by law.

Section 4.Female person of 15 years old or more and has not registered marriage shall use the title of "Miss".

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¹ Translated by Siam City Law Offices Limited under contract for the Office of the Council of State of Thailand's Law for ASEAN project.- Initial version- pending review and approval.

Section 5.Female person who has registered marriage can use the title of "Missus" or "Miss" voluntarily by informing the Registrar, in accordance with the law on family registration.

Section 6.For female person who has registered marriage but later such marriage ceased, she can use the title of "Missus" or "Miss" voluntarily by informing the Registrar, in accordance with the law on family registration.

Section 7.The Minister of Interior, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of the Social Development and Human Security shall have charge and control of the execution of this Act.

Countersigned by General SurayudChulanont Prime Minister

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<u>Note</u>:- The reason for notification of this Act is that the title usage by the female who has registered her marriage and later having such marriage ceased, would require usage of one title without any voluntary choice. This has caused an impact on female person in her daily living conduct, such as, on her profession, child education and other transactions. As a result, such female tile usage constitutes discriminatory treatment due to sexual differences which is unfair to the person. It is thus appropriate to specify a choice for title usage for female to be voluntary which coincides with the usage of the surname according to the law on names of persons. It is therefore necessary to enact this Act.

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