

Translation

**PLAYING CARDS ACT,  
B.E. 2486 (1943)**

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In the Name of His Majesty King Ananda Mahidol:  
Regents;  
Arthityathiparpa;  
Pridi Banomyong.

According to the Announcement of the President of the House of Representatives  
Dated 4<sup>th</sup> August B.E. 2480  
And Dated 16<sup>th</sup> December B.E. 2484,  
Given on the 17<sup>th</sup> Day of September B.E. 2486;  
Being the 10<sup>th</sup> Year of the Present Reign.

Whereas, by the resolution of the House of Representatives, it is expedient to revise the law on playing cards to be more concise and appropriate.

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

**Section 1.** This Act is called the "Playing Cards Act, B.E. 2486".

**Section 2.** This Act shall come into force as from the date of its publication in the Government Gazette.<sup>1</sup>

**Section 3.** The Playing Cards Act, B.E. 2481 (1938) and the Playing Cards Act (No. 2), B.E. 2482 (1939) shall be repealed.

**Section 4.** In this Act:

"playing cards" means the playing cards made from paper or leather or other materials as prescribed by the Ministerial Regulation;

"importing playing cards" means to bring or cause to bring playing cards into the Kingdom, but not including the import of playing cards by the master of conveyance as duty of transporter;

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<sup>1</sup> Published in the Government Gazette Vol. 60, Part 69, page 1794, dated 28<sup>th</sup> December B.E. 2486 (1943).

“competent official” means a person appointed by the Director-General for the execution of this Act;

“Director-General” means the Director-General of the Excise Department.

**Section 5.** No person shall produce or import playing cards unless permission is obtained from the Director-General.

**Section 6.** No person shall alter, change or act in any manner whatsoever to the playing cards produced by the Excise Department for sale as playing cards.

**Section 7.<sup>2</sup>** No person shall sell playing cards as trading unless a licence is obtained from the competent official.

In granting a licence, the applicant shall be required to pay the fees not exceeding one hundred Baht, the licence substitute not exceeding ten Bath each, as prescribed by the Ministerial Regulation and such licence shall be valid through the 31<sup>st</sup> December of the year of its issuance.

**Section 8.** No person shall possess playing cards more than one hundred and twenty cards or sell playing cards irrespective of quantity except such playing cards produced by the Excise Department or stamped with the seal prescribed by the Excise Department.

**Section 9.** No person shall sell or possess for sale playing cards produced in violation of section 6.

**Section 10.<sup>3</sup>** Fee for playing cards stamped shall be collected at the rate as prescribed by the Ministerial Regulation according to size, and material of playing cards, but not exceeding the rate of thirty Baht per one hundred playing cards.

**Section 10 bis.<sup>4</sup>** In the case of importing playing cards, the Minister shall make a notification notifying that the Customs Department shall collect the fee for playing cards stamped for the Excise Department.

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<sup>2</sup> As amended by section 3 of the Cards Act, (No. 2), B.E. 2505 (1962).

<sup>3</sup> As amended by section 4 of the Cards Act, (No. 2), B.E. 2505 (1962).

**Section 11.** No person shall possess a block for printing playing cards unless permission is obtained from the Director-General.

**Section 12.** In of determining whether this Act and Ministerial Regulations issued under this Act is being performed, the competent official shall have the power to enter premises during sunrise and sunset so as to conduct a search.

**Section 13.** Any person having permission to do any action under this Act, shall be comply with the rules under Ministerial Regulations.

**Section 14.<sup>5</sup>** Any person who violates section 5 shall be liable to imprisonment for a term of not exceeding ten years and to a fine, pursuant to the amount of confiscated playing cards, four times the price value of the same kind playing cards as sold by the Excise Department. But in the case of producing playing cards, that person shall be liable to a fine of not less than two thousand Baht.

**Section 14 bis.<sup>6</sup>** Any person who violates section 6, section 8 or section 9 shall be liable to imprisonment for a term of not exceeding three years or to a fine, pursuant to the amount of confiscated playing cards, four times the price value of the same kind playing cards as sold by the Excise Department but not less than five hundred Baht or to both.

**Section 14 ter.<sup>7</sup>** Any person who violates section 7 shall be liable to imprisonment for a term of not exceeding a month or to a fine not exceeding one thousand Baht or to both.

**Section 14 quarter.<sup>8</sup>** Any person who violates section 11 shall be liable to imprisonment from one year to seven years and to a fine from two thousand Bath to fifty thousand Baht.

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<sup>4</sup> As added by section 3 of the Cards Act, (No. 3), B.E. 2534 (1991).

<sup>5</sup> As amended by section 5 of the Cards Act, (No. 2), B.E. 2505 (1962).

<sup>6</sup> As added by section 6 of the Cards Act, (No. 2), B.E. 2505 (1962).

<sup>7</sup> As added by section 7 of the Cards Act, (No. 2), B.E. 2505 (1962).

<sup>8</sup> As added by section 8 of the Cards Act, (No. 2), B.E. 2505 (1962).

**Section 15.** Any person who, having permission to do any action under this Act, violates or fails to comply with the rules under Ministerial Regulations shall be liable to a fine not exceeding two hundred Baht.

**Section 16.** All playing cards or equipment used or possessed for use in the commission of an offence under this Act, the Court shall have the power to order for the forfeit.

**Section 17.** The competent official shall have the power to suspend the licence issued under this Act for the period of not exceeding six months, if the licensee commits an offence under this Act or the rules under Ministerial Regulations or the conditions under the licence.

**Section 18.** In the case where the licensee whose licence has been suspended under section 17, if the Director-General deems appropriate, he shall have the power to revoke the licence.

**Section 19.** The Minister of Finance shall have charge and control of the execution of this Act and shall have the power to issue Ministerial Regulations prescribing the rules for the licensee to be performed and other activities for the execution of this Act.

Such Ministerial Regulations shall come into force upon their publication in the Government Gazette.

Countersigned by:

Field Marshal Plaek. Pibulsongkram  
Prime Minister

Certified translation



(Mr. Chukiert Ratanachaichan)  
Deputy Secretary-General  
Acting for Secretary-General of the Council of State