

# Civil Defence Act 1939

# **CHAPTER 31**

# **CIVIL DEFENCE ACT 1939**

# **PART I**

THE MINISTER.

1 Transfer of functions of Secretary of State.

# **PART II**

PUBLIC SHELTERS, &C.

- 2 Designation of premises.
- 3 Appeal from designation of premises.
- 4 Execution of works.
- 5 Designated premises to remain unaltered.
- 6 Compensation where works are executed.
- 7 Powers of local authorities to construct underground shelters and other premises required for civil defence purposes.
- 8 Powers of local authorities to construct underground car-parks suitable for use as air-raid shelters.
- 9 Power of local authorities to construct air-raid shelters in streets.
- Agreements under Part II between local authority and occupiers of factory premises and owners of commercial buildings.
- 11 Local authority for purposes of Part II.

# **PART III**

PRIVATE SHELTERS AND TRAINING IN CERTAIN FACTORIES, MINES AND BUILDINGS.

- 12 Application of Part III.
- 13 Code for occupiers of factories, and c.

- Duty of occupiers of factory premises and owners of mines and commercial buildings to make reports.
- 15 Power of occupier or owner to execute works.
- Power of factory inspector, mines inspector or local authority to require provision of air-raid shelter.
- 17 Appeals.
- 18 Provisions as to factory premises occupied under short leases.
- 19 Provisions as to commercial buildings when owner does not occupy the whole building.
- 20 Contributions in respect of works commenced before the passing of this Act.
- 21 Saving for rights of occupier or owner existing apart from this Part.
- Exchequer grants in respect of provision of air-raid shelter in factory premises, mines, commercial buildings, and c.
- Training of employees.
- 24 Saving for certain authorities.
- 25 Local authority for purposes of Part III.

# **PART IV**

# OTHER PROVISIONS AS TO SHELTER.

- 26 Erection of shelters provided by the Crown.
- 27 Affixing of appliances provided by the Crown for strengthening basements.
- 28 Restriction of removal of shelters and appliances.
- 29 Loans by local authorities to owners of dwelling-houses.
- 30 Provision of air-raid shelter in certain buildings.
- 31 Special provisions as to land used in common by tenants of certain buildings.
- 32 Execution of works by owner of dwelling-house.
- Power to make regulations as to construction, alteration or extension of buildings.
- 34 Increase of housing subsidy as respects certain flats.
- 35 Provisions as to local authorities for purposes of Part IV.

# **PART V**

#### PUBLIC UTILITY UNDERTAKINGS.

- 36 Duty of public utility undertakers to make reports.
- 37 Power to require measures to be taken.
- 38 General grant in respect of expenses in providing shelter for employees.
- 39 Grants in respect of measures to secure due functioning of undertakings.
- 40 Provisions as to railway undertakings.
- 41 Provisions as to dock and harbour undertakings.
- 42 Provisions as to electricity undertakings.

# **PART VI**

# OBSCURATION OF LIGHTS AND CAMOUFLAGE.

- 43 General duty as to factories, mines and public utility undertakings.
- 44 Provisions as to processes involving flames or glare.
- 45 Camouflage.
- 46 Grants under Part VI.

- 47 Penalty for failure to comply with notice.
- 48 Saving for provisions of Part V.
- 49 Provisions as to practice of dimming lights.

#### **PART VII**

# MEASURES TO DEAL WITH CASUALTIES AND DISEASE.

- 50 Powers of Minister of Health.
- 51 Duties of local authorities.
- 52 Temporary transfer of officers.
- 53 Financial provisions.
- Powers conferred by this Part to be in substitution for powers under Act of 1937.
- 55 Provisions as to combination of councils.

#### PART VIII

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

- 56 Evacuation of civil population.
- 57 Requisition of premises and vehicles.
- 58 Special provisions as to supply of water for extinguishing fires.
- 59 Power of Minister of Transport to acquire plant and materials for repair of roads and bridges.
- 60 Power of Minister as to stocks of building material.
- Power of Minister to make byelaws with respect to land used for experiments with explosives.
- Power of local authorities and public utility undertakers to appropriate lands and buildings for purposes of civil defence.
- Amendment of s. 5 of Act of 1937.
- 64 Compulsory hiring of land.
- Powers of bodies corporate as to measures against hostile attack.
- 66 Extension of borrowing powers of trustees, and c.
- 67 Property in equipment, appliances and material provided by the Crown or local authorities.
- 68 Penalty for unauthorised use of uniforms, medals and badges.
- 69 Provision of air-raid shelter not to increase valuation for rating.
- 70 Enlargement of scope of town planning schemes.
- 71 Compensation in the event of injury to persons engaged in air-raid precautions activities.
- 72 Directions to local authorities to discharge functions with respect to airraid precautions.
- 73 Power to transfer functions of defaulting authority.

### PART IX

# SUPPLEMENTAL.

- 74 Determination of claims to compensation and increases of rent.
- 75 Supplementary provisions as to appeals to Minister.
- 76 Rules as to form of reports.
- 77 Penalty for false statements.
- 78 Criminal liability of directors, officers, and c.
- 79 Power of factory inspectors and local authorities to enter premises and penalty for obstruction.

- 80 Service of documents.
- 81 Exemption of certain works from building byelaws, and c.
- 82 Covenants to repair and reinstate not to apply to works executed under this Act
- 83 Financial provisions.
- 84 Special provisions as to London.
- 85 Consultation with joint committees under Act of 1937.
- 86 Exercise of powers of Board of Trade.
- 87 Saving for telegraphic lines.
- 88 Provisions as to orders, regulations, and c.
- 89 Definitions of "factory", "factory premises", " mine " and " commercial building " and interpretation of references to persons working and persons employed.
- 90 Other provisions as to interpretation.
- 91 Application to Scotland.
- 92 Provisions as to Northern Ireland.
- 93 Short title and citation.

# SCHEDULES.

# FIRST SCHEDULE —

PART I — FINANCING OF CERTAIN EXPENDITURE OF CENTRAL ELECTRICITY BOARD AND DISTRIBUTION OF BURDEN THEREOF AMONG ELECTRICITY UNDERTAKERS.

- 1 There shall be established a fund under the control of...
- 2 There shall be paid into the fund—
- 3 (1) For the purpose of defraying any expenses in respect...
- 4 There shall be paid out of the fund—
- 5 (1) The Electricity Commissioners shall pay to the Board—
- 6 (1) The Central Electricity Board shall, as soon as may...

PART II — DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY CENTRAL ELECTRICITY BOARD UNDER SUBSECTION (1) OF THE PRINCIPAL SECTION.

- 1 Any plant, equipment or other property acquired by the Central...
- 2 (1) Where it appears to the Minister that all the...

PART III — MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

- Where it is material to ascertain—(a) for the purposes...
- 2 No account shall be taken of the transactions of the...

# SECOND — Modifications of Lands Clauses Acts.

# **SCHEDULE**

- 1 The following sections of the Lands Clauses (Consolidation) Act, 1845,...
- 2 In the construction of this Act and the Lands Clauses...
- 3 At any time after notice to treat has been served,...
- 4 Section ninety-two of the Lands Clauses (Consolidation) Act, 1845, shall...
- 5 Where any land compulsorily acquired is land belonging to an...