

# DEMONSTRATIONS IN OR NEAR COURT BUILDINGS PROHIBITION ACT 71 OF 1982

[ASSENTED TO 22 MAY 1982] [DATE OF COMMENCEMENT: 1 AUGUST 1982]

(Signed by the President)

## ACT

To prohibit certain demonstrations and gatherings in or near court buildings, and to provide for matters connected therewith.

## ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

- 1 Definitions
- 2 Prohibition of demonstrations and gatherings in or within a fixed distance from certain buildings
- 3 Offences and penalties.
- 4 Short title and commencement

### 1 Definitions

In this Act, unless the context otherwise indicates-

"demonstration" means any demonstration by one or more persons for or against any person, cause, action or failure to take action, and which is connected with or coincides with any court proceedings or the proceedings at any inquest under the Inquests Act, 1959 (Act 58 of 1959); and "demonstrate" has a corresponding meaning;

"gathering" means any assembly, concourse or procession of any number of persons, relating to or arising out of any demonstration.

- 2 Prohibition of demonstrations and gatherings in or within a fixed distance from certain buildings

(1) Subject to the provisions of subsection (2), all demonstrations and gatherings in any building in which a court-room is situated or at any place in the open air within a radius of five hundred metres from such building are hereby prohibited on every day of the week except Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.

(2) The provisions of subsection (1) shall not apply to any demonstration or gathering for which the magistrate of the district in which the demonstration or gathering takes place has granted permission in writing.

(3) The provisions of section 48 of the Internal Security Act, 1956, shall mutatis mutandis apply in connection with the dispersal and the manner of dispersal of any demonstration or gathering prohibited by this section.

### 3 Offences and penalties.

Any person who-

(a) convenes or organizes any demonstration or gathering prohibited by section 2(1), or encourages, promotes or by means of force or threats causes the demonstration or gathering or attendance thereat or participation therein, or presides thereat or addresses it;

(b) prints, publishes, distributes or in any manner whatsoever, circulates a notice convening or organizing the proposed demonstration or gathering, or advertises or in any other manner makes known the proposed demonstration or gathering;

(c) attends or takes part in any demonstration or gathering so prohibited; or

(d) demonstrates in contravention of the provisions of section 2(1),

shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding one thousand rand or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year or to both such fine and such imprisonment.

### 4 Short title and commencement

This Act shall be called the Demonstrations in or near Court Buildings Prohibition Act, 1982, and shall come into operation on a date fixed by the State President by proclamation in the Gazette.