

**HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION**

ORDINANCE No. 6 OF 2003

L.S.

TUNG Chee-hwa  
Chief Executive  
20 March 2003

An Ordinance to amend the Juvenile Offenders Ordinance.

[ ]

Enacted by the Legislative Council.

**1. Short title and commencement**

(1) This Ordinance may be cited as the Juvenile Offenders (Amendment) Ordinance 2003.

(2) This Ordinance shall come into operation on a day to be appointed by the Secretary for Security by notice published in the Gazette.

**2. Age of criminal responsibility**

Section 3 of the Juvenile Offenders Ordinance (Cap. 226) is amended by repealing “7” and substituting “10”.

**3. Section added**

The following is added—

**“23. Transitional provisions**

As from the commencement of the Juvenile Offenders (Amendment) Ordinance 2003 (6 of 2003), no proceedings shall lie against a child in respect of an offence committed by him before that commencement if at the time the offence was committed the child was of an age that, had the offence been committed after that commencement, he would not be liable to proceedings for that offence by virtue of section 3.”.

**Consequential Amendments**

**Reformatory Schools Ordinance**

**4. Interpretation**

Section 2 of the Reformatory Schools Ordinance (Cap. 225) is amended, in the definition of “youthful offender”, by repealing “7” and substituting “10”.

**5. Duties and powers of manager**

Section 19(2) is repealed.

**6. Order not to be invalidated by subsequent proof of age**

Section 37 is amended by repealing “7” and substituting “10”.