



OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

ANNEX ONE

LEGISLATION - PART I

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The Marriage (Amending) Law of 2019 issued by publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Cyprus in accordance with Section 52 of the Constitution.

Number 115(I) of 2019

LAW AMENDING THE MARRIAGE LAWS OF 2003 TO 2017

The House of Representatives votes as follows:

Short title
104(I) of 2003
66(I) of 2009
95(I) of 2017.

1. This Law shall be referred to as the Marriage (Amending) Law of 2019 and shall be read along with the Marriage Laws of 2003 to 2017 (which shall be hereinafter referred to as “the basic law”) and the basic law and this Law shall be jointly referred to as the Marriage Laws of 2003 to 2019.

Amendment of section 2 of the basic law

2. Section 2 of the basic law is amended by adding, in the proper alphabetical order, the following new terms and the definitions thereof:

““competent authorities of the Republic” means the Registrar of Marriages or any officer of the Ministry of Interior whom the Registrar of Marriages may authorise for the purposes of the provisions of section 8;

“certificate of divorce” means a certificate of divorce, final and absolute, issued after a final judicial decision;”.

Amendment of section 8 of the basic law

3. Section 8 of the basic law is amended as follows:

(a) By replacing the side title thereof with the following side title:

“Declarations of persons regarding single status and no impediment.”;

(b) by deleting from the end of paragraph (1)(a) thereof the word “and” (second line);

- (c) by replacing at the end of paragraph (1)(b) thereof the period with a comma and the word “and” and by adding, immediately after, the following new paragraph:

“(c) each party has not contracted marriage or a civil union with another person which is still in force and that they are free to contract marriage.”;

- (d) by replacing in paragraph (2) thereof the phrase “may, if deemed appropriate,” (second line) with the word “has to”;

- (e) by replacing at the end of paragraph (2) thereof the period with a semi-colon and by adding, immediately after, the following new provisos:

“For the affirmation provided in paragraph (1)(c), it is required to present an official certificate or attestation issued by the competent authorities of the Republic or the competent authorities of the country of origin of the interested parties within a maximum period of three (3) months before submitting the affirmation:

Furthermore, if the Marriage Officer has any doubt regarding the accuracy or the authenticity of the certificate or the attestation, they may refuse to solemnize the marriage.”; and

- (f) by adding, immediately after paragraph (2) thereof, the following new paragraph:

“(2A) When the interested parties fail to present the certificates or attestations provided by paragraph (2), the Marriage Officer, taking into account the objective and convincing evidence presented before them, requests from such persons to make an affidavit before the Court Registrar of the competent District Court, in which they declare that each of them has not contracted marriage or a civil union which is still valid with another person and that they are free to contract marriage, or to refer to the official authorities of the Republic to issue such certificates or attestations:

In the event of a previous marriage or civil union, each interested party is required to present the certificate of divorce of the dissolved previous marriage thereof for the purpose of attesting the divorce or the documents attesting the dissolution of the civil union pursuant to the provisions of the Civil Union Law, as applicable:

184(l) of 2015.

Furthermore, if the former spouse of the interested party is deceased, such party has to present the certificate of death of their former spouse to certify the widow(er) status.”.