

CIVIL STATUS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2018

(Bill No. 7 of 2018)

OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Bill seeks to amend subsections (1) and (2) of section 76 of the Civil Status Act (Cap 34) in order to make new provisions and conditions for the celebration of a marriage at a private house or place. It also seeks to insert new sections 164 and 165.

Section 164 seeks to empower the Minister to issue directions or orders and section 165 seeks to enable the Minister to make regulations.

Dated this 20th day of June, 2018.

**FRANK D.R. ALLY
ATTORNEY-GENERAL**

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A BILL

OF

AN ACT to amend the Civil Status Act (Cap.34)

ENACTED by the President and the National Assembly.

1. This Act may be cited as the Civil Status (Amendment) Act, 2018. Short title

Amendment
of Cap 34

2. The Civil Status Act is hereby amended as follows —

- (a) by repealing section 76(1) and (2) and substituting therefor the following subsections —

“76.(1) Whenever the parties to a marriage request an officer to celebrate their marriage at a private house or place which falls within the district of that officer, he or she shall celebrate the marriage as requested.

(1A) A request under subsection (1) shall be provided only on payment of the prescribed fee by the parties and if the officer so requires, by providing conveyance to the officer to and from such private house or place.

(1B) The fees received by an officer shall be paid over to the Consolidated Fund and the officer shall be entitled to receive an allowance, per marriage, as may be prescribed.

(2) The fees received under subsection (1A) shall not be taken into account in computation of such officer's pension or retirement benefits.”;

- (b) by inserting after section 163 the following sections —

Power of
Minister to
issue
directions
or orders

“164. The Minister may issue general directions or orders for the purposes of regulating the matters under this Act.

Regulations

165.(1) The Minister may make regulations for carrying into effect the provision of this Act.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), the regulations may provide for —

- (a) the fees to be paid by the parties for celebrating a marriage under section 76;
- (b) the mode of conveyance to be provided to the officer celebrating a marriage under section 76 or allowances in lieu of such conveyance;
- (c) the allowances payable to an officer who celebrates a marriage under section 76; or
- (d) any other matter required to be prescribed under this Act.”.