

## ABBOZZ TA' LIĠI msejjah

*Att biex jemenda diversi liġijiet li għandhom x'jaqsmu ma' Materji ċivili*

IL-PRESIDENT bil-parir u l-kunsens tal-Kamra tad-Deputati, imlaqqgħa f'dan il-Parlament, u bl-awtorità ta' l-istess, hareġ b'liġi dan li ġejj:-

**1.** (1) It-titolu fil-qosor ta' dan l-Att hu Att ta' l-2008 li jemenda Diversi Liġijiet li jirrigwardaw Materji Ċivili. Titolu fil-qosor u bidu fis-sehh.

(2) Dan l-Att għandu jidhol fis-sehh f'dik id-data li l-Ministru responsabbli għall-Ġustizzja jista' jistabbilixxi b'avviż fil-Gazzetta u jistgħu jiġu hekk stabbiliti dati differenti għal disposizzjonijiet differenti jew għal għanijiet differenti ta' dan l-Att.

### Taqsimha I

**2.** Din it-taqsimha temenda l-Kodiċi Ċivili u għandha tinqara u tiftiehem haġa waħda mal-Kodiċi Ċivili, hawn iżjed 'il quddiem f'din it-taqsimha msejjah "il-Kodiċi". Emenda tal-Kodiċi Ċivili. Kap. 16.

**3.** Fil-paragrafu (ċ) ta' l-artikolu 73 tal-Kodiċi, minflok il-kliem "kien "ġie lilu mohbi." għandhom jidhlu l-kliem "kien "ġie lilu mohbi:" u minnufih wara għandhom jizjed dawn il-proviso li ġejjin: Emenda ta' l-artikolu 73 tal-Kodiċi.

“Iżda, minghajr preġudizzju għad-dispożizzjonijiet tas-subartikolu (4) ta’ l-artikolu 70, il-Qorti tal-Familja tista’, wara li jsir rikors mir-raġel u, jekk ikun possibbli, wara li tkun semgħet lill-partijiet interessati kollha, u wara li tkun qieset id-drittijiet tar-raġel u tat-tifel, f’kull żmien tawtorizza lir-raġel biex jibda kawża biex jiċhad tifel imwieled matul iż-żwieġ lil martu:

Iżda wkoll, meta kawża sabiex jiġi miċhud tifel issir mir-raġel wara li jkunu għaddew il-perjodi stipulati fil-paragrafi (a), (b) jew (ċ) ta’ dan l-artikolu skond l-ewwel proviso ta’ dan l-artikolu, kull sentenza li biha t-tifel jiġi miċhud ma jkollhiex l-effett illi tbiddel il-kunjom tat-tifel jew ta’ xi persuna oħra li tkun hadet kunjomha minghand it-tifel sakemm il-qorti, fuq talba ta’ xi wahda mill-partijiet magħmula jew fir-rikors ġuramentat li bih tkun inbdiet il-kawża jew b’rikors separat magħmul matul il-kawża, ma tipprovdix xort’oħra.”.

Emenda  
fl-artikolu 74  
tal-Kodici

**4.** Fl-artikolu 74 tal-Kodici, minflok il-kliem “qabel ma jkun għalaq iż-żmien skond il-ligi” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “qabel ma jkun għalaq iż-żmien indikat fil-paragrafi (a), (b) jew (ċ) ta’ l-artikolu 73”.

Emenda ta’ l-  
artikolu 92  
tal-Kodici.

**5.** Fis-subartikolu (1) ta’ l-artikolu 92 tal-Kodici, minflok il-kliem “jiehu l-kunjom ta’ l-omm” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “jiehu kunjom xbubit l-omm”.

## Taqsimi II

Emenda tal-Kodici  
ta’ Organizzazzjoni  
u Proċedura Ċivili.

Kap. 12.

**6.** Din it-taqsimi temenda l-Kodici ta’ Organizzazzjoni u Proċedura Ċivili u għandha tinqara u tiftiehem haġa wahda ma’ l-imsemmi Kodici, hawn iżjed ’il quddiem f’din it-taqsimi msejjaħ “il-Kodici”.

Emenda ta’ l-  
artikolu  
382 tal-Kodici.

**7.** Fis-subartikolu (1) ta’ l-artikolu 382 tal-Kodici, minflok il-kliem “imsemmija fl-artikolu 381(1)(a) u (b),” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “imsemmija fl-artikoli 381(1)(a) u (b), hliet għal kull benefiċċju, pensjoni, *allowance* jew għajjuna msemmija fl-Att dwar is-Sigurtà Soċjali,”.

## Taqsimi III

Emenda ta’ l-Att  
dwar il-Professjoni  
Nutarili u l-Arkivji  
Nutarili.

Kap. 55.

**8.** Din it-taqsimi temenda l-Att dwar il-Professjoni Nutarili u l-Arkivji Nutarili, u għandha tinqara u tiftiehem haġa wahda ma’ l-Att dwar il-Professjoni Nutarili u l-Arkivji Nutarili, hawn iżjed ’il quddiem imsejjaħ “il-ligi prinċipali”.

**9.** Fis-subartikolu (2) ta' l-artikolu 3 tal-liġi prinċipali, minflok il-kliem “,Nutar Pubbliku fid-Dipartiment ta' l-Artijiet u Nutar Pubbliku ma' l-Uffiċċju Kongunt” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “u Nutar Pubbliku fit-Taqsima Proprjetà tal-Gvern”.

Emenda ta' l-artikolu 3 tal-liġi prinċipali.

**10.** L-artikolu 14 tal-liġi prinċipali għandu jiġi emendat kif ġej:

Emenda ta' l-artikolu 14 tal-liġi prinċipali.

(a) fil-proviso mal-paragrafu (a) tas-subartikolu (1) tiegħu, minflok il-kliem “Nutar Pubbliku fid-Dipartiment ta' l-Artijiet” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “Nutar Pubbliku fit-Taqsima Proprjetà tal-Gvern”, u l-kliem “jew Nutar Pubbliku ma' l-Uffiċċju Kongunt” għandhom jithassru; u

(b) fis-subartikolu (3) tiegħu, minflok il-kliem “fid-Dipartiment ta' l-Artijiet” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “fit-Taqsima Proprjetà tal-Gvern”, u l-kliem “jew Nutar Pubbliku ma' l-Uffiċċju Kongunt” għandhom jithassru.

**11.** Il-proviso ma' l-artikolu 18 tal-liġi prinċipali għandu jiġi emendat kif ġej:

Emenda ta' l-artikolu 18 tal-liġi prinċipali.

(a) fil-paragrafu (a), minflok il-kliem “ikun in-Nutar Pubbliku fid-Dipartiment ta' l-Artijiet jew wiehed min-Nutara Pubbliċi fid-Dipartiment ta' l-Artijiet” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “, jew nutara fit-Taqsima Proprjetà tal-Gvern, ikun in-Nutar fit-Taqsima Proprjetà tal-Gvern”, minflok il-kliem “l-kariga ta' Nutar Pubbliku fid-Dipartiment ta' l-Artijiet” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “l-kariga ta' Nutar fit-Taqsima Proprjetà tal-Gvern”, u minflok il-kliem “fid-Dipartiment ta l-Artijiet;” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “fid-Dipartiment ta' l-Artijiet jew nutara fit-Taqsima Proprjetà tal-Gvern;”; u

(b) fil-paragrafu (ċ), minflok il-kliem “ikun in-Nutar Pubbliku ma' l-Uffiċċju Kongunt” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “ikun in-Nutar fit-Taqsima Proprjetà tal-Gvern jew wiehed minn Nutara Pubbliċi fit-Taqsima Proprjetà tal-Gvern nominat mill-Ministru responsabbli għall-affarijiet nutarili”, u minflok il-kliem “l-kariga ta' Nutar Pubbliku ma' l-Uffiċċju Kongunt” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “l-kariga ta' Nutar fit-Taqsima Proprjetà tal-Gvern”.

**12.** L-artikolu 22 tal-liġi prinċipali għandu jiġi emendat kif ġej:

Emenda ta' l-artikolu 22 tal-liġi prinċipali.

(a) fis-subartikolu (1) tiegħu, minflok il-kliem “jew tnejn fid-Dipartiment ta' l-Artijiet” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “jew aktar fit-Taqsima Proprjetà tal-Gvern u”, u l-kliem “u Nutar Pubbliku ma' l-Uffiċċju Kongunt” għandhom jithassru;

(b) fis-subartikolu (2) tieghu, minflok il-kliem “fid-Dipartiment ta’ l-Artijiet, in-Nutar Pubbliku ma’ l-Awtorità tad-Djar u n-Nutar Pubbliku ma’ l-Uffiċċju Kongunt” ghandhom jidhlu l-kliem “fit-Taqsima Proprjetà tal-Gvern u n-Nutar Pubbliku ma’ l-Awtorità tad-Djar”;

(ċ) fis-subartikolu (3) tieghu, minflok il-kliem “fid-Dipartiment ta’ l-Artijiet, in-Nutar Pubbliku ma’ l-Awtorità tad-Djar u n-Nutar Pubbliku ma’ l-Uffiċċju Kongunt” ghandhom jidhlu l-kliem “fit-Taqsima Proprjetà tal-Gvern u n-Nutar Pubbliku ma’ l-Awtorità tad-Djar”; u

(d) fis-subartikolu (5) tieghu, minflok il-kliem “impediment iehor legittimu ta’ Nutar Pubbliku fid-Dipartiment ta’ l-Artijiet jew ta’ Nutar Pubbliku ma’ l-Awtorità tad-Djar jew Nutar Pubbliku ma’ l-Uffiċċju Kongunt” ghandhom jidhlu l-kliem “impediment iehor legittimu ta’ Nutar Pubbliku fit-Taqsima Proprjetà tal-Gvern jew ta’ Nutar Pubbliku ma’ l-Awtorità tad-Djar”, u minflok il-kliem “d-dmirijiet tan-Nutar Pubbliku fid-Dipartiment ta’ l-Artijiet jew tan-Nutar Pubbliku ma’ l-Awtorità tad-Djar jew tan-Nutar Pubbliku ma’ l-Uffiċċju Kongunt” ghandhom jidhlu l-kliem “d-dmirijiet tan-Nutar Pubbliku fit-Taqsima Proprjetà tal-Gvern jew tan-Nutar Pubbliku ma’ l-Awtorità tad-Djar”.

Emenda ta’ l-artikolu 23 tal-liġi prinċipali.

**13.** L-artikolu 23 tal-liġi prinċipali ghandu jiġi emendat kif ġej:

(a) fis-subartikolu (1) tieghu, minflok il-kliem “in-Nutara tal-Gvern, in-Nutara Pubbliċi fid-Dipartiment ta’ l-Artijiet u n-Nutar Pubbliku ma’ l-Uffiċċju Kongunt” ghandhom jidhlu l-kliem “in-Nutara tal-Gvern u n-Nutara fit-Taqsima Proprjetà tal-Gvern”; u

(b) fis-subartikolu (2) tieghu, minflok il-kliem “, in-Nutara Pubbliċi fid-Dipartiment ta’ l-Artijiet u n-Nutar Pubbliku ma’ l-Uffiċċju Kongunt” ghandhom jidhlu l-kliem “u n-Nutar fit-Taqsima Proprjetà tal-Gvern”.

Emenda ta’ l-artikolu 24 tal-liġi prinċipali.

**14.** Fl-artikolu 24 tal-liġi prinċipali, minflok il-kliem “fid-Dipartiment ta’ l-Artijiet jew ghan-Nutar Pubbliku ma’ l-Awtorità tad-Djar jew ghan-Nutar Pubbliku ma’ l-Uffiċċju Kongunt” ghandhom jidhlu l-kliem “fit-Taqsima Proprjetà tal-Gvern jew ghan-Nutar Pubbliku ma’ l-Awtorità tad-Djar”.

Emenda ta’ artikolu 40 tal-liġi prinċipali.

**15.** Minnufih wara l-proviso mal-paragrafu (d) ta’ l-artikolu 40 tal-liġi prinċipali, ghandu jiżdied dan il-proviso ġdid li ġej:

“Izda wkoll l-ommissjoni tad-dikjarazzjoni msemija fl-artikolu 28(1)(k)(ii) m’ghandhiex tinvalida l-att;”.

#### Taqsimha IV

**16.** Din it-taqsimha temenda l-Att dwar iż-Żwieġ, u ghandha tinqara u tiftiehem haġa waħda ma’ l-Att dwar iż-Żwieġ, hawn iżjed ’il quddiem imsejjah “il-liġi prinċipali”. Emenda ta’ l-Att dwar iż-Żwieġ. Kap. 255.

**17.** Is-subartikolu (1) ta’ l-artikolu 2 tal-liġi prinċipali għandu jiġi emendat kif ġej: Emenda ta’ artikolu 2 tal-liġi prinċipali.

(a) fit-tifsira “Registatur” minflok il-kliem “awtorizzata mir-Registatur għal hekk;” għandhom jidhru l-kliem “awtorizzata mir-Registatur għal hekk u, għar-rigward ta’ żwiġijiet li jsiru f’ibhra internazzjonali abbord bastiment tal-passiġġieri registat f’Malta tinkludi kaptan ta’ bastiment tal-passiġġieri awtorizzata għaldaqshekk mir-Registatur;”; u

(b) fit-tifsira “Registru taż-Żwieġ”, minnufih wara l-kliem “fil-Gżira ta’ Malta” għandhom jiżdiedu l-kliem “jew f’ibhra internazzjonali abbord bastiment tal-passiġġieri registat f’Malta”.

**18.** Fis-subartikolu (1) ta’ l-artikolu 16 tal-liġi prinċipali, minnufih wara l-kliem “fir-Registru taż-Żwieġ” għandhom jiżdiedu l-kliem “jew f’ibhra internazzjonali abbord bastiment tal-passiġġieri registat f’Malta”. Emenda ta’ artikolu 16 tal-liġi prinċipali.

#### Taqsimha V

**19.** Din it-taqsimha temenda l-Att dwar il-Karti ta’ l-Identità, u ghandha tinqara u tiftiehem haġa waħda ma’ l-Att dwar il-Karti ta’ l-Identità, hawn iżjed ’il quddiem f’din it-taqsimha msejjah “il-liġi prinċipali”. Emenda ta’ Att dwar il-Karti ta’ l-Identità. Kap.258.

**20.** Minnufih wara l-artikolu 6 tal-liġi prinċipali, għandu jiżdied dan l-artikolu ġdid li ġej Żjieda ta’ l-artikolu 6A mal-liġi prinċipali.

“Meta tiġi irtirata u mibdula Karta ta’ l-Identità.

6A. L-uffiċjal awtorizzat jista’ jitlob lil detentur ta’ Karta ta’ l-Identità li jagħtih lura dik il-Karta ta’ l-Identità, sabiex tkun tista’ tinhareġ Karta ta’ l-Identità ġdida lid-detentur li jkun fiha informazzjoni speċjali dwar il-validità ta’ dik il-karta għal finijiet ta’ safar, f’dawn il-każijiet li ġejjin:

(a) meta tkun issehh ordni mahruġa mill-Qorti jew minn tribunal imwaqqaf skond il-liġi, li tkun tipprojbixxi lid-detentur milli jitlaq minn dawn il-Gzejjer minghajr ma jitlob l-awtorizzazzjoni ta' dik il-Qorti jew ta' dak it-tribunal;

(b) meta d-detentur ikun aċċetta li jinghata l-helsien fuq garanzija taht kundizzjoni li ma jitlaqx minn dawn il-Gzejjer minghajr l-awtorizzazzjoni ta' xi Qorti jew tribunal;

(c) meta d-detentur ikun ġie mehlus minn detenzjoni mill-Pulizija Eżekuttiva bil-kundizzjoni li ma jitlaqx minn dawn il-Gzejjer minghajr l-awtorizzazzjoni ta' l-uffiċjal investigattiv taht l-artikolu 355AL tal-Kodiċi Kriminali.”.

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### **Ghanijiet u Raġunijiet**

L-Ghan ta' dan l-Abbozz hu sabiex jagħmilha possibbli li raġel jeżercita l-azzjoni ta' denegata paternità anke wara li jiskadi t-terminu provdut fl-artikolu 73 tal-Kodiċi Ċivili f'dawk il-każijiet meta l-Qorti wara li tkun qieset id-drittijiet tar-raġel u tat-tifel jidhriha illi jkun xieraq li tawtorizza li ssir dik l-azzjoni, sabiex jiċċara xi kwistjoni f'konformità mal-ġurisprudenza, dwar il-kunjom li għandhom jassumu ċertu ulied naturali, sabiex jevita l-possibiltà ta' interpretazzjonijiet konfliġġenti ta' l-artikoli 382 tal-Kodiċi ta' Organizzazzjoni u Proċedura Ċivili u ta' l-artikolu 101(2) ta' l-Att dwar is-Sigurtà Soċjali, sabiex jawtorizza l-għemil ta' żwiġijiet ċivili f'ibhra internazzjonali abbord bastimenti tal-passiġġieri reġistrati f'Malta, sabiex jiġu validati difetti minuri f'atti pubbliċi f'ċertu każijiet, sabiex id-detentur ta' Karta ta' l-Identità ma jithalliex f'ċertu każijiet speċifiċi milli juża' dak id-dokument bhala dokument tas-safar, u sabiex jirregola l-istruttura interna tas-servizzi nutarili fit-Taqsima Proprietà tal-Gvern.

**A BILL  
entitled**

*An Act to amend various laws relating to Civil Matters*

BE IT ENACTED by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the House of Representatives, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:-

Short title and commencement.

**1.** (1) The short title of this Act is the Various Laws (Civil Matters) (Amendment) Act, 2008.

(2) This Act shall come into force on such date as the Minister responsible for justice may by notice in the Gazette appoint and different dates may be so appointed for different provisions or different purposes of this Act.

**Part I**

Amendment of the Civil Code.

Cap. 16.

Amendment of article 73 of the Code.

**2.** This part amends the Civil Code and it shall be read and construed as one with the Civil Code, hereinafter in this part referred to as “the Code”.

**3.** In paragraph (c) of article 73 of the Code, for the words “was concealed from him.” there shall be substituted the words “was concealed from him:” and immediately thereafter there shall be added the following provisos:

“Provided that, without prejudice to the provisions of subarticle (4) of article 70, the Family Court may, upon an application of the husband and, if possible, after having heard all the parties interested, and after having considered the rights of the husband and of the child, at any time authorise the husband to institute an action to disown a child born in wedlock to his wife:

Provided further that where an action to disown a child is instituted by the husband after the lapse of the periods stipulated in paragraphs (a), (b) or (c) of this article in accordance with the first proviso to this article, any judgement whereby the child is disowned shall not have the effect of changing the surname of the child or of any other person who took his surname from the child unless the court, upon the demand of any of the parties made either in the sworn application whereby the action is commenced or in a separate application made during the action, provides otherwise.”.

Amendment of article 74 of the Code.

**4.** In article 74 of the Code, for the words “before the expiration of the legal time” there shall be substituted the words “before the expiration of the time provided in paragraphs (a), (b) or (c) of article 73”.

Amendment of article 92 of the Civil Code.

**5.** In subarticle (1) of article 92 of the Code, for the words “he shall assume the surname of the mother” there shall be substituted the words “he shall assume the maiden surname of the mother”.

## Part II

Amendment of the Code of Organization and Civil Procedure. Cap. 12.

**6.** This part amends the Code of Organization and Civil Procedure and it shall be read and construed as one with the said Code, hereinafter in this part referred to as “the Code”.

Amendment of article 382 of the Code.

**7.** In subarticle (1) of article 382 of the Code, for the words “mentioned in article 381(1)(a) and (b)” there shall be substituted the words “mentioned in article 381(1)(a) and (b) except for any benefit, pension, allowance or assistance mentioned in the Social Security Act.”.

## Part III

Amendment of the Notarial Profession and Notarial Archives Act. Cap 55.

**8.** This part amends the Notarial Profession and Notarial Archives Act, and it shall be read and construed as one with the Notarial Profession and Notarial Archives Act hereinafter referred to as “the principal law”.

Amendment of article 3 of the principal law.

**9.** In sub-article (2) of article 3 of the principal law, for the words “, Notary Public in the Land Department and Notary Public with the Joint Office” there shall be substituted the words “and Notary Public in the Government Property Division”.

Amendment of article 14 of the principal law.

**10.** Article 14 of the principal law shall be amended as follows:



(a) in the proviso to paragraph (a) of subarticle (1) thereof, for the words “Notary Public in the Land Department” there shall be substituted the words “Notary Public in the Government Property Division”, and the words “or Notary Public with the Joint Office” shall be deleted; and

(b) in subarticle (3) thereof, for the words “in the Land Department” there shall be substituted the words “in the Government Property Division”, and the words “or Notary Public with the Joint Office” shall be deleted.

Amendment of  
article 18 of the  
principal law.

**11.** The proviso to article 18 of the principal law shall be amended as follows:

(a) in paragraph (a) thereof, for the words “shall be the Notary Public in the Land Department or one of the Notaries Public in the Land Department” there shall be substituted the words “, or notaries in the Government Property Division, shall be the Notary in the Government Property Division”, for the words “the office of Notary Public in the Land Department” there shall be substituted the words “the office of Notary in the Government Property Division”, and for the words “in the Land Department;” there shall be substituted the words “in the Land Department or notaries in the Government Property Division;”; and

(b) in paragraph (c) thereof, for the words “shall be the Notary Public with the Joint Office” there shall be substituted the words “shall be the Notary in the Government Property Division or one of the Notaries Public in the Government Property Division designated by the Minister responsible for notarial affairs”, and for the words “the office of Notary Public with the Joint Office” there shall be substituted the words “the office of Notary in the Government Property Division”.

Amendment of  
article 22 of the  
principal law.

**12.** Article 22 of the principal law shall be amended as follows:

(a) in subarticle (1) thereof, for the words “or two Notaries Public in the Land Department” there shall be substituted the words “or more Notaries Public in the Government Property Division and”, and the words “and one Notary Public with the Joint Office” shall be deleted;

(b) in subarticle (2) thereof, for the words “in the Land Department, the Notary Public with the Housing Authority and the Notary Public with the Joint Office” there shall be substituted the words “in the Government Property Division and the Notary Public with the Housing Authority”;

(c) in subarticle (3) thereof, for the words “in the Land Department, the Notary Public with the Housing Authority and the Notary Public with the Joint Office” there shall be substituted the words “in the Government Property Division and the Notary Public with the Housing Authority”; and

(d) in subarticle (5) thereof, for the words “impediment of a Notary Public in the Land Department or a Notary Public with the Housing Authority or a Notary Public with the Joint Office” there shall be substituted the words “impediment of a Notary Public in the Government Property Division or a Notary Public with the Housing Authority”, and for the words “duties of the Notary Public in the Land Department or of the Notary Public with the Housing Authority or of the Notary Public with the Joint Office” there shall be substituted the words “duties of the Notary Public in the Government Property Division or of the Notary Public with the Housing Authority”.

Amendment of article 23 of the principal law.

**13.** Article 23 of the principal law shall be amended as follows:

(a) in subarticle (1) thereof, for the words “the Notaries to Government, the Notaries Public in the Land Department and the Notary Public with the Joint Office” there shall be substituted the words “the Notaries to Government and the Notaries in the Government Property Division”; and

(b) in subarticle (2) thereof, for the words “, the Notaries Public in the Land Department and the Notary Public with the Joint Office” there shall be substituted the words “and the Notary in the Government Property Division”.

Amendment of article 24 of the principal law.

**14.** In article 24 of the principal law, for the words “in the Land Department or a Notary Public with the Housing Authority or a Notary Public with the Joint Office” there shall be substituted the words “in the Government Property Division or a Notary Public with the Housing Authority”.

Amendment of article 40 of the principal law.

**15.** Immediately after the proviso to paragraph (d) of article 40 of the principal law, there shall be added the following new proviso:

“Provided further that the omission of the declaration referred to in article 28(1)(k)(ii) shall not invalidate the act;”.

## Part IV

Amendment of the  
Marriage Act.

Cap. 255.

**16.** This part amends the Marriage Act and it shall be read and construed as one with the Marriage Act hereinafter referred to as “the principal law”.

Amendment of  
article 2 of the  
principal law.

**17.** Sub-article (1) of article 2 of the principal law shall be amended as follows:

(a) in the definition “Marriage Registry”, immediately after the words “Island of Malta” there shall be added the words “or in international waters on board a passenger vessel registered in Malta”; and

(b) in the definition “Registrar” for the words “authorised by the Registrar for that purpose;” there shall be substituted the words “authorised by the Registrar for that purpose and, in respect of marriages taking place in international waters on board a passenger vessel registered in Malta includes a master of a passenger vessel authorised for that purpose by the Registrar;”.

Amendment of  
article 16 of the  
principal law.

**18.** In sub-article (1) of article 16 of the principal law, immediately after the words “in the Marriage Registry” there shall be inserted the words “or in international waters on board a passenger vessel registered in Malta”.

## Part V

Amendment of the  
Identity Card Act.  
Cap. 258.

**19.** This part amends the Identity Card Act, and it shall be read and construed as one with the Identity Card Act, hereinafter in this part referred to as “the principal law”.

Addition of article  
6A to the principal  
law.

**20.** Immediately after article 6 of the principal law, there shall be added the following new article:

“Withdrawal  
and change  
of Identity  
Card.

**6A.** The authorised officer may request the holder of an identity card to return such identity card to him, so that a new identity card may be issued to the holder with special information about the validity of such card for travelling purposes, in the following cases:

(a) when there is in force an order issued by a Court or tribunal established by law, prohibiting the holder from leaving these Islands without requesting authorisation of such Court or tribunal;

(b) when the holder has accepted to be released on bail under a condition not to leave these Islands without the authorisation of any Court or tribunal;

(c) when the holder has been released from detention by the Executive Police under the condition not to leave these Islands without the authorisation of the investigating officer under article 355AL of the Criminal Code.”.

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### **Objects and Reasons**

The purpose of this Bill is to enable the filing of an action for disavowal after the time limit provided in Article 73 of the Civil Code in cases where the Court, after considering the rights of the father and of the child considers it appropriate to authorise the filing of such an action, to clarify, in line with case law, the issue regarding the surname to be assumed by some natural children, to avoid conflicting interpretations of Article 382 of the Code of Organisation and Civil Procedure and Article 101(2) of the Social Security Act, to authorise the conclusion of civil marriages in international waters on board passenger vessels registered in Malta, to validate minor defects in public deeds in certain cases, disallow the holder of an identity card in certain specific cases from using such card as a travel document, and regulate the internal structure of notarial services in the Government Property Division.