

*Suppliment tal-Gazzetta tal-Gvern ta' Malta, Nru. 20,085, 9 ta' Novembru, 2018*

*Taqsimha C*

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## **Nru. 68**

9. 11. 2018

### **MALTA**

#### **KAMRA TAD-DEPUTATI**

#### **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

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ABBOZZ ta' Liġi mressaq mill-Onorevoli Michael Falzon, M.P., Ministru għall-Familja, Drittijiet tat-Tfal u Solidarjetà Soċjali, u moqri għall-Ewwel darba fis-Seduta tat-23 ta' Ottubru, 2018.

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A BILL introduced by the Honourable Michael Falzon, M.P., Minister for the Family, Children's Rights and Social Solidarity, and read the First time at the Sitting of the 23rd October, 2018.

**ATT sabiex jemenda diversi liġijiet dwar il-Ħarsien Soċjali, u sabiex jistabbilixxi u jinnomina l-ħatra tad-direttur responsabbli għall-Ħarsien Soċjali u sabiex jagħmel dispożizzjonijiet ancillari u konsegwenzjali għalihom.**

**AN ACT to amend various social welfare laws and to establish and designate the appointment of the Director responsible for Social Welfare and to make ancillary and consequential provisions thereto.**

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RAYMOND SCICLUNA  
*Skrivan tal-Kamra tad-Deputati*

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RAYMOND SCICLUNA  
*Clerk of the House of Representatives*



## ABBOZZ TA' LIĠI msejjah

*ATT sabiex jemenda diversi liġijiet dwar il-Ħarsien Soċjali, u sabiex jistabbilixxi u jinnomina l-ħatra tad-direttur responsabbli għall-Ħarsien Soċjali u sabiex jagħmel dispozizzjonijiet anċillari u konsegwenzjali għalihom.*

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

1. It-titolu fil-qosor ta' dan l-Att huwa l-Att tal-2018 li jemenda Diversi Liġijiet dwar il-Ħarsien Soċjali. Titolu fil-qosor.
2. F'dan l-Att sakemm ir-rabta tal-kliem ma teħtieġx xort'ohra: Tifsir.

"Uffiċjal Eżekuttiv Ewlieni" għandu jkollha l-istess tifsira kif mogħti lilha fl-Att dwar l-Awtorità ta' *Standards* ta' Ħarsien Soċjali. Kap. 582.

### TAQSIMA I EMENDI GHALL-ATT DWAR TFAL U ŻGHAŻAGH (ORDNIJET GHALL-HARSIEN)

3. Din it-Taqsima temenda l-Att dwar Tfal u Żgħażaġh (Ordnijiet għall-Ħarsien) u għandha tinqara u tinftiehem haġa waħda mal-Att dwar Tfal u Żgħażaġh (Ordnijiet għall-Ħarsien) hawn iżjed 'il quddiem f'din it-Taqsima msejjaħ "l-Att prinċipali". Emenda għall-Att dwar Tfal u Żgħażaġh (Ordnijiet għall-Ħarsien). Kap. 285.
4. L-artikolu 4 tal-Att prinċipali għandu jiġi sostitwit b'dan li ġej: Sostituzzjoni tal-artikolu 4 tal-Att prinċipali.

"(4). (1) Jekk, wara li jsiru rappreżentazzjonijiet bil-miktub mill-Uffiċjal Eżekuttiv Ewlieni tal-Awtorità ta' *Standards* ta' Ħarsien Soċjali u wara li jagħti lill-ġenituri u lill-kustodju, jekk ikun hemm, tat-tifel jew taż-żagħżuġh opportunità li jagħtu l-fehmiet tagħhom, u wara li jisma' lil kull persuna oħra li x'aktarx tista' tgħinu, il-Ministru jkun sodisfatt li dak it-tifel jew

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żagħżuġh ikun jehtiegħ ħarsien, protezzjoni jew kontroll, ikun idmir tal-Ministru b'ordni bil-miktub iffirmit minnu li jieħu lil dak it-tifel jew żagħżuġh taħt il-ħarsien tiegħu.

(2) Kopja ta' kull ordni magħmul mill-Ministru taħt is-subartikolu (1) għandha tintbagħat minnufih b'ittra registrata lill-persuna li tkun qed teżerċita s-setgħa ta' missier fuq it-tifel jew iż-żagħżuġh, jew lill-kustodju tiegħu, jekk ikun hemm, li jkun mitlub jesprimi lill-Uffiċjal Eżekuttiv Ewlieni tal-Awtorità ta *Standards* ta' Ħarsien Soċjali fi żmien wieħed u għoxrin jum mid-data li fiha jkun irċieva l-imsemmija ittra, jekk joġġezzjonax għall-imsemmi ordni.

(3) Jekk il-persuna li lilha tintbagħat l-ittra registrata taħt is-subartikolu (2), toġġezzjona, ukoll verbalment, għall-ordni fiż-żmien preskritt fiha, l-Uffiċjal Eżekuttiv Ewlieni tal-Awtorità ta *Standards* ta' Ħarsien Soċjali għandu, mhux iktar minn sebat ijiem mid-data li fiha jsir jaf bl-oġġezzjoni, jibgħat il-każ lill-Qorti tal-Minorenni b'dak il-mod li jiġi preskritt b'regolamenti magħmula taħt l-artikolu 13.

(4) Meta każ jintbagħat lill-Qorti tal-Minorenni skont is-subartikolu (3), l-imsemmija qorti għandha, b'dak il-mod u f'dak iż-żmien kif jiġi preskritt b'regolamenti magħmula taħt l-artikolu 13, tirrevedi l-każ kollhu u tiddeċiedi jekk it-tifel jew iż-żagħżuġh ikunx jehtiegħ ħarsien, protezzjoni jew kontroll u għandha skont dan tikkonferma jew tirrevoka l-ordni magħmul taħt is-subartikolu (1).

(5) Jekk il-Qorti tal-Minorenni tikkonferma li l-ordni saret taħt is-subartikolu (1), il-persuna msemmija fl-imsemmi subartikolu tista', wara erba' xhur wara dik il-konferma, titlob lill-Qorti tal-Minorenni biex tirrevedi l-ordni. Dik it-talba għandha ssir permezz ta' ittra registrata lil-Uffiċjal Eżekuttiv Ewlieni tal-Awtorità ta *Standards* ta' Ħarsien Soċjali. L-Uffiċjal Eżekuttiv Ewlieni tal-Awtorità ta' *Standards* ta' Ħarsien Soċjali għandu, mhux iżjed minn sebat ijiem mid-data tal-wasla ta' dik l-ittra, jirreferi l-każ lill-Qorti tal-Minorenni bl-istess mod hekk kif preskritt bir-regolamenti magħmulin taħt l-artikolu 13, b'dan illi dik il-Qorti għandha tiddeċiedi dwar dik ir-referenza fi żmien wieħed u għoxrin gurnata minn meta saret dik ir-referenza.

(6) Ordni magħmul taħt is-subartikolu (1) għandu, kemm-il darba ma jkunx waqaf l-effett tiegħu qabel, jieqaf milli jkollu effett fid-data li fiha t-tifel jew iż-żagħżuġh li dwaru jsir l-ordni jilħaq l-età ta' tmintax-il sena."

## TAQSIMA II EMENDI GHAR-REGOLAMENTI DWAR L-ADOZZJONI

5. Din it-Taqsima temenda r-Regolamenti dwar l-Adozzjoni u għandha tinqara u tinftiehem haġa waħda mar-Regolamenti dwar l-Adozzjoni, hawn iżjed 'il quddiem f'din it-Taqsima msejha "ir-regolamenti prinċipali".

Emenda għar-Regolamenti dwar l-Adozzjoni. L.S. 16.04.

6. Is-subparagrafu (a) tar-regolament 2 tar-regolamenti prinċipali għandu jiġi sostitwit b'dan li ġej:

Emenda tar-regolament 2 tar-regolamenti prinċipali.

"(a) għall-finijiet tal-artikolu 116(2), l-awtorità hemm imsemmija tkun l-Uffiċjal Eżekuttiv Ewlieni tal-Awtorità ta *Standards* ta' Harsien Soċjali. L-Uffiċjal Eżekuttiv Ewlieni għandu minn naħa tiegħu jissottometti rapport soċjali lill-qorti fl-interess tal-persuna li tkun ser tiġi adottata, u l-qorti tagħti d-digriet fuq ir-rikors ta' adozzjoni wara li tkun qieset ir-rapport;"

## TAQSIMA III EMENDI GHALL-ORDNI DWAR TIFSIRA TA' ADOZZJONI BARRANIJA

7. Din it-Taqsima temenda l-Ordni dwar tifsira ta' Adozzjoni Barranija u għandha tinqara u tinftiehem haġa waħda mal-Ordni dwar tifsira ta' Adozzjoni Barranija, hawn iżjed 'il quddiem f'din it-Taqsima msejjaħ "l-Ordni prinċipali".

Emenda għall-Ordni dwar tifsira ta' Adozzjoni Barranija. L.S. 16.05.

8. L-artikolu 4 tal-Ordni prinċipali għandu jiġi sostitwit b'dan li ġej:

Sostituzzjoni tal-artikolu 4 tal-Ordni prinċipali.

"4. L-Awtorità ta' *Standards* ta' Harsien Soċjali, qieghda b'dan tiġi appuntata bħala l-Awtorità Ċentrali biex twettaq id-dmirijiet imposti mill-Konvenzjoni fuq dawn l-Awtoritajiet."

## TAQSIMA IV EMENDI GHAR-REGOLAMENTI DWAR TFAL U ŻGHAŻAGĦ (ORDNIJET GHALL-HARSIEN)

9. Din it-Taqsima temenda r-Regolamenti dwar Tfal u Żgħażaġħ (Ordnijiet għall-Harsien) u għandha tinqara u tinftiehem haġa waħda mar-Regolamenti dwar Tfal u Żgħażaġħ (Ordnijiet għall-Harsien), hawn iżjed 'il quddiem f'din it-Taqsima msejha "ir-regolamenti prinċipali".

Emendi għar-Regolamenti dwar Tfal u Żgħażaġħ (Ordnijiet għall-Harsien). L.S. 285.01.

10. It-tifsira "id-Direttur" fir-regolament 2 tar-regolamenti prinċipali għandha tiġi sostitwita b'dan li ġej:

Emenda tar-regolament 2 tar-regolamenti prinċipali.

"Uffiċjal Eżekuttiv Ewlieni" tfisser l-Uffiċjal Eżekuttiv Ewlieni tal-Awtorità ta' *Standards* ta' Harsien Soċjali jew

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kwalunkwe persuna delegata minnu għal dak il-għan;"

Emenda tar-regolament 4 tar-regolamenti prinċipali.

**11.** Ir-regolament 4 tar-regolamenti prinċipali għandu jiġi emendat kif ġej:

(a) is-subregolament (1) tiegħu għandu jiġi sostitwit b'dan li ġej:

"(1) Meta l-Uffiċjal Eżekuttiv Ewlieni ikun jaf b'xi oġġezzjoni mill-persuna li tkun qed teżerċita l-awtorità ta' ġenituri fuq, jew tkun il-kustodju ta', xi tifel jew żagħżuġ għal ordni għall-ħarsien magħmul mill-Ministru taħt l-artikolu 4(1) tal-Att, għandu, kemm jista' jkun malajr, iżda f'ebda każ mhux iżjed tard minn sebat ijiem mill-jum li fih ikun sar jaf b'dik l-oġġezzjoni, jirreferi l-każ lill-Qorti tal-Minorenni permezz ta' komunikazzjoni bil-miktub indirizzata lir-Registatur tal-Qrati jew lill-persuna li prinċipali tkun tagħmel ix-xogħol ta' registatur kif tista' tiġi assenjata għal dak l-għan skont id-dispożizzjonijiet tal-artikolu 369 tal-Kodiċi Kriminali.";

Kap. 9.

(b) is-subregolament (2) tiegħu għandu jiġi emendat kif ġej:

(i) is-subparagrafu (ċ) tiegħu għandu jiġi sostitwit b'dan li ġej:

"(ċ) kopja tar-rappreżentazzjonijiet bil-miktub magħmula mill-Uffiċjal Eżekuttiv Ewlieni lill-Ministru taħt l-artikolu 4(1) tal-Att;"

(ii) is-subparagrafu (e) tiegħu għandu jiġi sostitwit b'dan li ġej:

"(e) lista ta' persuni (bl-indirizzi tagħhom) li, fil-fehma tal-Uffiċjal Eżekuttiv Ewlieni, jistgħu jgħinu lill-Qorti tal-Minorenni biex tirrevedi l-każ.".

Emenda tar-regolament 5 tar-regolamenti prinċipali.

**12.** Is-subregolament (2) tar-regolament 5 tar-regolamenti prinċipali għandu jiġi sostitwit b'dan li ġej:

"(2) Il-Qorti tal-Minorenni għandha żżomm seduta biex tirrevedi każ kemm jista' jkun malajr, iżda f'ebda każ mhux iktar tard minn sebat ijiem mill-jum li fih ir-Registatur ta' dik il-Qorti jkun irċieva mingħand l-Uffiċjal Eżekuttiv Ewlieni il-komunikazzjoni bil-miktub imsemmija fir-regolament 4:

Iżda qabel is-seduta, ir-Registatur tal-Qorti għandu

jinnotifika lill-partijiet bid-data, s-siegha u l-post tas-smiġh."

**13.** Is-subregolament (1) tar-regolament 9 tar-regolamenti prinċipali għandu jiġi sostitwit b'dan li ġej:

Emenda tar-regolament 9 tar-regolamenti prinċipali.

"(1) Il-Bord għandu jiltaqa' kif u meta jkun meħtieġ iżda għandu jiltaqa' bl-urġenza fuq it-talba tal-Ministru jew tal-Uffiċjal Eżekuttiv Ewlieni magħmula lilu permezz tas-Segretarju tal-Bord."

**14.** Is-subregolament (1) tar-regolament 10 tar-regolamenti prinċipali għandu jiġi sostitwit b'dan li ġej:

Emenda tar-regolament 10 tar-regolamenti prinċipali.

"(1) Ikun id-dmir ta' kull persuna jew persuni responsabbli għad-dar, *hostel* jew istituzzjoni li magħha jew li fiha tifel jew żagħżuġh ikun ġie alloġġat jew akkomodat skont id-dispożizzjonijiet tal-artikolu 10(1) tal-Att li jiżguraw li dak it-tifel jew dak iż-żagħżuġh ikun trattat u mrobbi f'ambjent li normalment issib f'familja Maltija tajba u li twassal għal sigurtà psikoloġika kif ukoll għal fiżiku tajjeb, sabiex ikun hemm żvilupp normali u tajjeb. B'mod partikolari, dik il-persuna jew dawk il-persuni għandhom jipprovdu dieta bilanċjata u nutrijenti u għandhom jzommu livell ta' iġjene li normalment ikun aċċettabbli għas-sodisfazzjon tal-Uffiċjal Eżekuttiv Ewlieni; u għandhom jiżguraw ukoll li, bla ħsara għal kull haġa li hemm f'xi liġi oħra, it-tifel jew iż-żagħżuġh jattendi servizzi reliġjużi regolament u jirċievi tagħlim reliġjuż."

**15.** Is-subregolament (1) tar-regolament 11 tar-regolamenti prinċipali għandu jiġi sostitwit b'dan li ġej:

Emenda tar-regolament 11 tar-regolamenti prinċipali.

"(1) L-Uffiċjal Eżekuttiv Ewlieni għandu:

(a) jkollu d-dmir li jispezzjona kull fond fejn tifel jew żagħżuġh ikun qed jgħix jew alloġġat fih biex jiżgura li d-dispożizzjonijiet tar-regolament 10 ikunu qegħdin jiġu osservati;

(b) jkollu d-dritt li jżur u jintervista tfal jew żgħażaġh fil-post fejn ikunu qegħdin jiġu akkomodati."

**16.** Il-kliem "Bħala missier/omm/kustodju tal-imsemmi/ja ..... jekk inti ma taqbilx ma' dan l-Ordni għall-ħarsien għandek jedd tressaq l-oġġezzjoni tiegħek quddiem id-Direttur responsabbli mill-*welfare* soċjali mhux iżjed tard minn wieħed u għoxrin (21) jum mid-data li fiha tirċievi dan l-ordni" fit-Taqsima 1 tal-Iskeda tar-regolament prinċipali għandhom jiġu sostitwiti bil-kliem "Bħala missier/omm/kustodju tal-imsemmi/ja .....jekk

Emenda tal-Iskeda tar-regolamenti prinċipali.

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inti ma taqbilx ma' dan l-Ordni għall-ħarsien għandek jedd tressaq l-oġġezzjoni tiegħek quddiem l-Uffiċjal Eżekuttiv Ewlieni tal-Awtorità ta' *Standards* ta' Ħarsien Soċjali mhux iżjed tard minn wieħed u għoxrin (21) jum mid-data li fiha tirċievi dan l-ordni."

**TAQSIMA V**  
**EMENDI GHAR-REGOLAMENTI DWAR L-**  
**AKKREDITAMENT TAL-AĠENZJI**

Emenda għar-Regolamenti dwar l-Akkreditament tal-Aġenziji. L.S. 495.01.

**17.** Din it-Taqsima temenda r-Regolamenti dwar l-Akkreditament tal-Aġenziji u għandha tinqara u tinftiehem haġa waħda mar-Regolamenti dwar l-Akkreditament tal-Aġenziji hawn iżjed 'il quddiem f'din it-Taqsima msejha "r-regolamenti prinċipali".

Emenda tal-Iskeda tar-regolamenti prinċipali.

**18.** Il-kliem "Dipartiment għal Standards fil-Ħarsien Soċjali Ministru tal-Ġustizzja, Konsultazzjoni Pubblika u l-Familja Bugeja Institute, 469, Triq il-Kbira, St. Venera, SVR 1012 Malta Tel. (356) 22788000, Fax: (356) 22788260, Website: [www.welfarestandards.gov.mt](http://www.welfarestandards.gov.mt), E-mail: [welfare.standards@gov.mt](mailto:welfare.standards@gov.mt)" fl-Applikazzjoni għall-Akkreditament ta' Aġenziji tal-Adozzjoni fl-Iskeda tar-regolamenti prinċipali għandhom jiġu sostitwiti bil-kliem, "Awtorità ta' *Standards* ta' Ħarsien Soċjali, Ministeru għall-Familja, Drittijiet tat-Tfal u Solidarjetà Soċjali, Bugeja Institute, 469, Triq il-Kbira, St. Venera, SVR 1012 Malta Tel. (356) 25494300, Website: [www.scsa.gov.mt](http://www.scsa.gov.mt), E-mail: [info.scsa@gov.mt](mailto:info.scsa@gov.mt)".

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**Għanijiet u Raġunijiet.**

L-għanijiet u r-raġunijiet ta' dan l-Abbozz huma sabiex tiġi stabbilita l-Awtorità ta' *Standards* ta' Ħarsien Soċjali bħala l-Awtorità Ċentrali l-għdida għal atti dwar adozzjoni u dwar Ordnijiet ta' ħarsien ta' tfal u żgħażaġh.



**A BILL  
entitled**

*AN ACT to amend various social welfare laws and to establish and designate the appointment of the Director responsible for Social Welfare and to make ancillary and consequential provisions thereto.*

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:-

1. The short title of this Act is the Various Social Welfare Laws (Amendment) Act, 2018. Short title.
2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires: Interpretation.

"Chief Executive Officer" shall have the same meaning as assigned to it in the Social Care Standards Authority Act. Cap. 582.

**PART I  
AMENDMENTS TO THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS  
(CARE ORDERS) ACT**

3. This Part amends the Children and Young Persons (Care Orders) Act and shall be read and construed as one with the Children and Young Persons (Care Orders) Act, hereinafter in this Part referred to as "the principal Act." Amendment to the Children and Young Persons (Care Orders) Act.  
Cap. 285.
4. Article 4 of the principal Act shall be substituted by the following: Substitution of article 4 of the principal Act.

"(4). (1) If, on representations made to him in writing by the Chief Executive Officer of the Social Care Standards Authority and after giving the parents and the guardian, if any, of the child or young person an opportunity to express their views, and after hearing any other person he may deem likely to assist him, the Minister is satisfied that that child or young person is in need of care, protection or control, it shall be the duty of the

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Minister by an order in writing under his hand to take such child or young person into his care.

(2) A copy of any order made by the Minister under sub-article (1) shall forthwith be sent by registered letter to the person exercising paternal authority over the child or young person, or to his guardian, if any, who shall be asked to state to the Chief Executive Officer of the Social Care Standards Authority within twenty-one days from the date of receipt of the said letter, whether he objects to the said order.

(3) If the person to whom the registered letter is sent under sub-article (2) shall, within the time therein prescribed, signify, even verbally, his objection to the order, the Chief Executive Officer of the Social Care Standards Authority shall, not later than seven days from the date on which he shall have become aware of the objection, refer the case to the Juvenile Court in such manner as shall be prescribed by regulations made under article 13.

(4) Where a case is referred to the Juvenile Court under sub-article (3), the said court shall, in such manner and within such time as shall be prescribed by regulations made under article 13, review the whole case and decide whether the child or young person is in need of care, protection or control and shall accordingly confirm or revoke the order made under sub-article (1).

(5) If the Juvenile Court confirms the order made under sub-article (1), the person referred to in the said sub-article may, after four months following such confirmation, request the Juvenile Court to review the order. Such a request shall be made by means of a registered letter to the Chief Executive Officer of the Social Care Standards Authority. The Chief Executive Officer of the Social Care Standards Authority shall, not later than seven days from the date of the receipt of such letter, refer the case to the Juvenile Court in the same manner as prescribed by the regulations made under article 13, so however that the said Court shall give its decision and the said reference within twenty-one days from when it is made to it.

(6) An order made under sub-article (1) shall, unless it has ceased to have effect earlier, cease to have effect on the date on which the child or young person in respect of whom the order is made attains the age of eighteen year."

**PART II**  
**AMENDMENTS TO THE ADOPTION REGULATIONS**

**5.** This Part amends the Adoption Regulations and shall be read and construed as one with the Adoption Regulations, hereinafter in this Part referred to as "the principal regulations".

Amendment to the Adoption Regulations.  
S.L. 16.04.

**6.** Sub-paragraph (a) of regulation 2 of the principal regulations shall be substituted by the following:

Amendment of regulation 2 of the principle regulations.

"(a) for the purposes of article 116(2), the prescribed authority therein referred to shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Social Care Standards Authority. The Chief Executive Officer shall in turn submit a social report to the court in the interest of the person to be adopted, and the court shall decide on the application for an adoption after it has taken cognizance of the report;"

**PART III**  
**AMENDMENTS TO THE OVERSEAS ADOPTION**  
**(DEFINITION) ORDER**

**7.** This Part amends the Overseas Adoption (Definition) Order and shall be read and construed as one with the Overseas Adoption (Definition) Order, hereinafter in this Part referred to as "the principal Order."

Amendment to the Overseas Adoption (Definition) Order.  
S.L. 16.05.

**8.** Article 4 of the principal Order shall be substituted by the following:

Substitution of article 4 of the principal Order.

"4. The Social Care Standards Authority is hereby designated as the Central Authority to discharge the duties which are imposed by the Convention upon such Authorities."

**PART IV**  
**AMENDMENTS TO THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS**  
**(CARE ORDERS) REGULATIONS**

**9.** This Part the Children and Young Persons (Care Orders) Regulations amends and shall be read and construed as one with the Children and Young Persons (Care Orders) Regulations, hereinafter in this Part referred to as "the principal regulations."

Amendments to the Children and Young Persons (Care Orders) Regulations.  
S.L. 285.01.

**10.** The definition "the Director" in regulation 2 of the principal regulations shall be substituted by the following:

Amendment of regulation 2 of the principal regulations.

"The Chief Executive Officer" means the Chief Executive Officer of the Social Care Standards Authority or any person so delegated by him for the purpose;"

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Amendment of regulation 4 of the principal regulations.

**11.** Regulation 4 of the principle regulations shall be amended as follows:

(a) sub-regulation (1) thereof, shall be substituted by the following:

"(1) When the Chief Executive Officer becomes aware of any objection by the person exercising parental authority over, or the guardian of, a child or young person, to a care order made by the Minister under article 4(1) of the Act, he shall, as soon as may be but in any case not later than seven days from the date on which he shall have become aware as aforesaid, refer the case to the Juvenile Court by means of a written communication addressed to the Registrar of Courts or to the person performing the functions of registrar as may be assigned for the purpose in accordance with the provisions of article 369 of the Criminal Code.";

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(b) sub-regulation (2) thereof, shall be amended as follows:

(i) sub-paragraph (c) thereof shall be substituted by the following:

"(c) a copy of the written representations made by the Chief Executive Officer to the Minister under article 4(1) of the Act;"

(ii) sub-paragraph (e) thereof shall be substituted by the following:

"(e) a list of persons (with their addresses) who in the opinion of the Chief Executive Officer could be of assistance to the Juvenile Court in reviewing the case."

Amendment of regulation 5 of the principal regulations.

**12.** Sub-regulation (2) of regulation 5 of the principle regulations shall be substituted by the following:

"(2) The Juvenile Court shall hold a sitting to review a case as soon as may be, but in any case not later than seven days from the date on which the Registrar of the Court shall have received from the Chief Executive Officer the written communication referred to in regulation 4:

Provided that prior to the sitting, the Registrar of Court shall notify the parties of the date, hour and location of the hearing,".

**13.** Sub-regulation (1) of regulation 9 of the principle regulations shall be substituted by the following: Amendment of regulation 9 of the principal regulations.

"(1) The Board shall meet as and when necessary but shall meet with urgency at the request of the Minister or of the Chief Executive Officer and conveyed to it through the Secretary of the Board."

**14.** Sub-regulation (1) of regulation 10 of the principle regulations shall be substituted by the following: Amendment of regulation 10 of the principal regulations.

"(1) It shall be the duty of any person or persons responsible for the home, hostel or institution with whom or in which a child or young person has been boarded out or accommodated in accordance with the provisions of article 10(1) of the Act to ensure that such child or young person is treated and brought up in an environment which is normally to be found in a good Maltese family and which is conducive to psychological security as well as to physical well-being, so as to promote normal and healthy development. In particular, such person or persons shall provide a balanced and nourishing diet and maintain normally acceptable standards of hygiene to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer; and shall further ensure that, without prejudice to anything contained in any other law, the child or young person attends regular religious services and receive religious instruction."

**15.** Sub-regulation (1) of regulation 11 of the principle regulations shall be substituted by the following: Amendment of regulation 11 of the principal regulations.

"(1) The Chief Executive Officer shall:

(a) have the duty to inspect any premises in which a child or young person is accommodated or boarded out to ensure that the provisions of regulation 10 are being complied with;

(b) have the right to visit and interview children or young persons at the place where they are accommodated."

**16.** The words "In your capacity as father/mother/guardian of the said ..... if you object to this care order you have a right to signify your objection to the Director responsible for social welfare by not later than (21) twenty-one days from the day of the receipt of this order." in Part 1 of the Schedule to the principal regulations, shall be substituted by the words, "In your capacity as father/mother/guardian of the said .....if you object to this care order you have a right to Amendment of the Schedule to the principal regulations.

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signify your objection to the Chief Executive Officer of the Social Care Standards Authority by not later than twenty-one (21) days from the day of the receipt of this order."

**PART V**  
**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENCY ACCREDITATION**  
**REGULATIONS**

Amendment to  
the Agency  
Accreditation  
Regulation.  
S.L. 495.01.

**17.** This Part amends the Agency Accreditation Regulations and shall be read and construed as one with the Agency Accreditation Regulations, hereinafter in this Part referred to as "the principle regulations."

Amendment of  
the Schedule to  
the principal  
regulations.

**18.** The words "Department for Social Welfare Standards, Ministry for Justice, Dialogue and Family, Bugeia Institute, 469, St. Joseph High Road, St. Venera, SVR 1012, Malta Tel: (356) 22788000, Fax: (356) 22788260 Website: [www.welfarestandards.gov.mt](http://www.welfarestandards.gov.mt) and E-mail:welfare.standards@gov.mt" in the Application for Accreditation of an Adoption Agency found in the Schedule to the principal regulations shall be substituted by the words, "Social Care Standards Authority, Ministry for the Family, Children's Rights and Social Solidarity, Bugeia Institute, 469, St. Joseph High Road, St. Venera, SVR 1012, Malta, Tel: (356) 25494300, Website: [www.scsa.gov.mt](http://www.scsa.gov.mt) and E-mail: info.scsa@gov.mt."

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**Objects and Reasons.**

The objects and reasons of this Bill are to establish the Social Care Standards Authority as the new Central Authority for Acts on adoption and on care orders of children and young persons.



