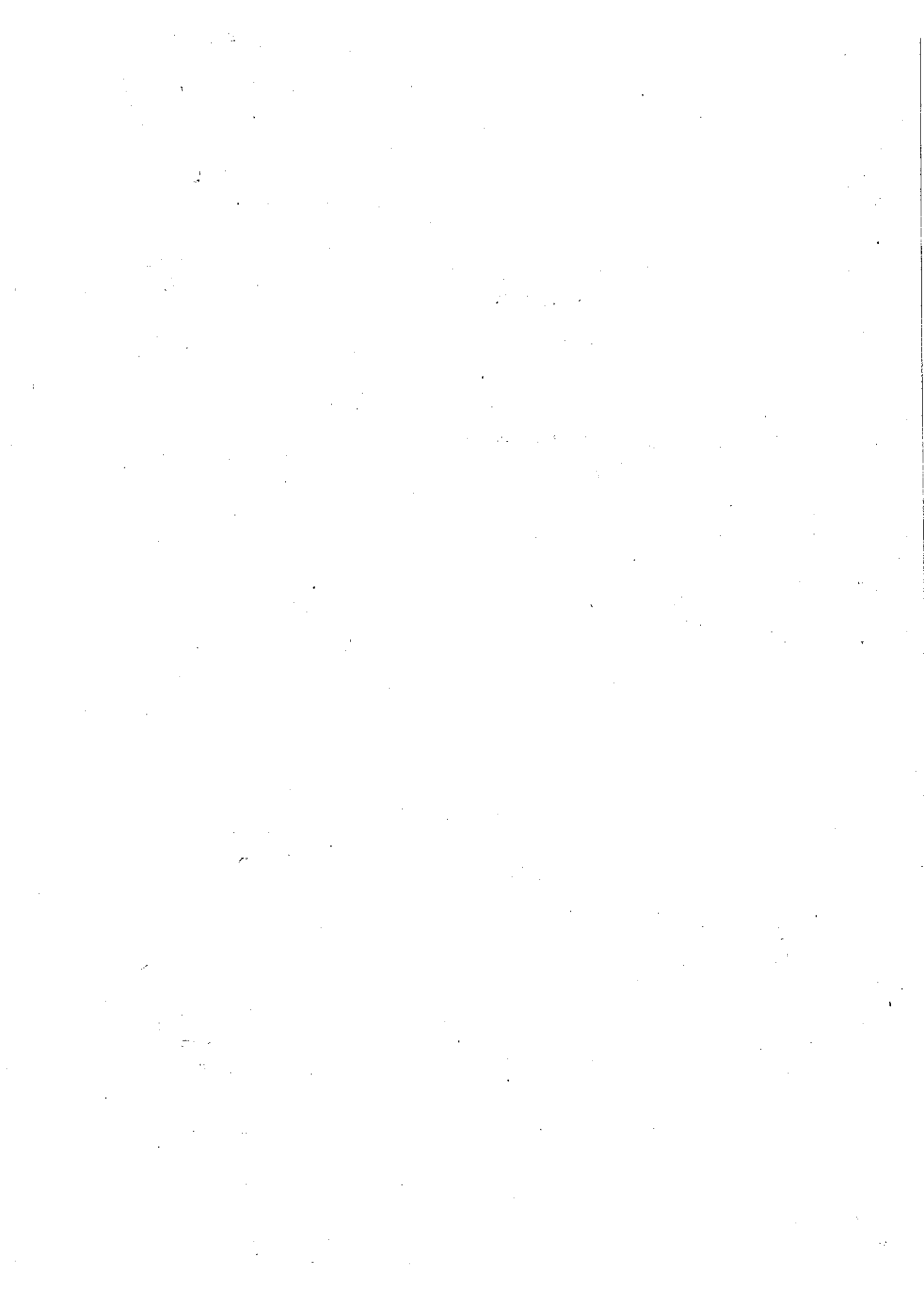


MARRIAGE ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2019

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

Clause:

1. Amendment of Cap. M6, LFN, 2004
2. Amendment of section 11
3. Substitution for section 15
4. Amendment of section 20
5. Amendment of section 27
6. Amendment of section 36
7. Citation



A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE MARRIAGE ACT CAP. M6 LAWS OF THE
FEDERATION OF NIGERIA, 2004 TO REDUCE THE AGE FOR THE ISSUANCE
OF CERTIFICATE, EXTEND THE POWER TO REMOVE A CAVEAT TO OTHER
COURTS AND EMPOWER THE PRINCIPAL REGISTRAR TO REVIEW THE
MARRIAGE FEES; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored Hon. Simon D. Mwadkwon

[] Commencement

ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of
Nigeria:

- 1 1. The Marriage Act Cap. M6 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, Amendment of
- 2 2004 (in this Bill referred to as "the Principal Act") is amended as set out in Cap. M6 LFN,
- 3 this Bill; 2004
- 4 2. Section 11 (1) (b) of the Principal Act is amended by Amendment of
- 5 substituting for the word, "twenty-one", the word "eighteen" in line 2. Section 11
- 6 3. Substitute for section 15 of the Principal Act, a new section Amendment of
- 7 "15": Section 15
- 8 *"When caveat entered, question to be referred to court*
- 9 15 Whenever a caveat is entered against issuance of certificate, the
- 10 registrar shall refer the matter to a Magistrate or Judge of the Customary
- 11 Court and such Magistrate or Judge shall there upon summon the parties to
- 12 the intended marriage and the person by whom the caveat is entered, to
- 13 appear before the Magistrate or Judge of the Customary Court shall require
- 14 the person by whom the caveat is entered to show cause why the registrar
- 15 should not issue his certificate and shall hear and determine the case in a
- 16 summary way subject to a right of appeal."
- 17 4. Section 20 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting new Amendment of
- 18 paragraph "ba - be": Section 20

	1	“(ba) Minister of a licenced place of worship;
	2	(bb) Magistrate or Customary Court Judge; or
	3	(be) Chief, Village Head or Community Head.”
Amendment of Section 27	4	5. Section 27 of the Principal Act is amended by substituting for the
	5	word "man" in lines 8 and 10 and anywhere it appears in the Act, the word,
	6	"husband".
Amendment of Section 36	7	6. Section 36 of the Principal Act is amended by:
	8	(a) inserting a new subsection "(2)";
	9	“(2) The Principal Registrar may, from time to time, review the fees
	10	specified in the Second Schedule to this Act”; and
	11	(b) re-numbering the section appropriately.
Citation	12	7. This Bill may be cited as the Marriage Act (Amendment) Bill,
	13	2019.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the Marriage Act Cap. M6 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to reduce the age for the issuance of certificate, extend the power to remove a caveat to other courts and empower the Principal Registrar to review the marriage fees.