

SCHEDULE

MINOR AND CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS

PART 1

AMENDMENTS TO THE MATRIMONIAL CAUSES ACT 1973

12 After section 12A insert—

“12B The period before nullity of marriage orders may be made final

- (1) An order that annuls a marriage which is void or voidable (a “nullity of marriage order”)—
 - (a) is, in the first instance, a conditional order, and
 - (b) may not be made final before the end of the period of 6 weeks from the making of the conditional order.
- (2) The Lord Chancellor may by order made by statutory instrument amend this section so as to shorten or lengthen the period for the purposes of subsection (1)(b).
- (3) But the Lord Chancellor may not under subsection (2) lengthen the period so that it exceeds 6 months.
- (4) In a particular case the court dealing with the case may by order shorten the period that would otherwise be applicable for the purposes of subsection (1)(b).
- (5) A statutory instrument containing an order under subsection (2) is subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.”