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### CHAPTER 1:09

## REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (ADAPTATION AND MODIFICATION OF LAWS) ACT

### ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

#### SECTION

- 1. Short title.
- 2. Reduction of the age of majority from twenty-one years to eighteen years.
- 3. Time at which person attains a particular age.
- 4. Persons under full age may be described as minors instead of infants.

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# An Act for reducing the age of majority generally and for matters connected therewith.

7 of 1973

### [1ST JANUARY, 1974]

**1.** This Act may be cited as the Representation of the People (Adaptation and Modification of Laws) Act.

Short title.

- 2. (1) As from the 1st January, 1974 a person shall attain full age on attaining the age of eighteen years instead of on attaining the age of twenty-one years; and a person shall attain full age on that date if he has then already attained the age of eighteen years but not the age of twenty-one years.
- Reduction of the age of majority from twenty-one years to eighteen years.

(2) Subsection (1) applies for the purposes of any rule of law and, in the absence of a definition or of any indication of a contrary intention, for the construction of the expressions "full age", "infant", "infancy", "minor", "minority" and similar expressions in—

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- (a) any law, enacted before, on or after the 1st January, 1974; and
- (b) any deed, will or other instrument of whatever nature (not being a law) made on or after that date.
- (3) The President may, by order, which shall be subject to negative resolution, amend any provision in any law enacted before the 1st January, 1974 by substituting a reference to the age of eighteen years for any reference therein to the age of twenty-one years; and any such order may contain such other provisions for the purpose of giving effect to this subsection.
- (4) Notwithstanding any rule of law, a will or codicil executed before the 1st January, 1974 shall not be treated for the purposes of this section as made on or after that date by reason only that the will or codicil is confirmed by a codicil executed on or after that date.

Time at which a person attains a particular age.

- **3.** (1) The time at which a person attains a particular age expressed in years shall be the commencement of the relevant anniversary of the date of his birth.
- (2) This section applies only where the relevant anniversary falls on a date after that on the 1st January, 1974, and, in relation to any law, deed, will or other instrument, has effect subject to any provision therein.

Persons under full age may be described as minors instead of infants. **4.** Anything in any law to the contrary notwithstanding a person who is not of full age may be described as a minor instead of as an infant.

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