



# Matrimonial Causes Act 1973

## 1973 CHAPTER 18

### PART I

#### DIVORCE, NULLITY AND OTHER MATRIMONIAL SUITS

##### *Nullity*

#### [<sup>F1</sup>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.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 12B inserted (6.4.2022) by [Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Act 2020](#) (c. 11), s. 8(1)(8), [Sch. para. 12](#) (with s. 8(4)); [S.I. 2022/283](#), reg. 2

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973, Section 12B.