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**Changes to legislation:** Equality Act 2010, PART 6A is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 15 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

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## SCHEDULES

### SCHEDULE 3

#### SERVICES AND PUBLIC FUNCTIONS: EXCEPTIONS

#### [<sup>F1</sup>PART 6A

#### MARRIAGE OF SAME SEX COUPLES [<sup>F2</sup>AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP] IN ENGLAND AND WALES

##### Textual Amendments

- F1** Sch. 3 Pt. 6A inserted (13.3.2014) by [Marriage \(Same Sex Couples\) Act 2013 \(c. 30\), ss. 2\(6\), 21\(3\); S.I. 2014/93, art. 3\(a\)](#)
- F2** Words in Sch. 3 Pt. 6A heading inserted (E.W.S.) (2.12.2019) by [The Civil Partnership \(Opposite-sex Couples\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1458\), regs. 1\(2\), 10\(3\)\(a\)](#)

*Marriage according to religious rites: no compulsion to solemnize etc*

- 25A (1) A person does not contravene section 29 only because the person—
- (a) does not conduct a relevant marriage,
  - (b) is not present at, does not carry out, or does not otherwise participate in, a relevant marriage, or
  - (c) does not consent to a relevant marriage being conducted,
- for the reason that the marriage is the marriage of a same sex couple.
- (2) Expressions used in this paragraph and in section 2 of the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013 have the same meanings in this paragraph as in that section.]

*No compulsion for religious organisations or persons acting on their behalf to act in relation to civil partnerships*

- [<sup>F3</sup>25A(A) A protected person does not contravene section 29 only because the person—
- (a) does not allow religious premises to be used as the place at which two people register as civil partners of each other under Part 2 of the Civil Partnership Act 2004 (“the 2004 Act”), or
  - (b) does not provide, arrange, facilitate or participate in, or is not present at—
    - (i) an occasion during which two people register as civil partners of each other on religious premises under Part 2 of the 2004 Act, or
    - (ii) a ceremony or event in England or Wales to mark the formation of a civil partnership,
- for the reason that the person does not wish to do things of that sort in relation to civil partnerships generally, or those between two people of the same sex, or those between two people of the opposite sex.

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- (2) An employer or principal does not contravene section 29 only because the employer or principal is treated under section 109 as doing something that does not, by virtue of sub-paragraph (1), amount to a contravention of section 29 by the employee or agent who in fact does it.
- (3) In this paragraph—  
“protected person” has the meaning given by section 30ZA(2) of the 2004 Act;  
“religious premises” has the meaning given by section 6A(3C) of the 2004 Act.]

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#### Textual Amendments

- F3** Sch. 3 Pt. 6A para. 25AA inserted (E.W.S.) (2.12.2019) by [The Civil Partnership \(Opposite-sex Couples\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1458\)](#), regs. 1(2), **10(3)(b)**

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:**

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 40A inserted by [2023 c. 51 s. 1](#)
- s. 120(9) inserted by [2023 c. 51 s. 2\(b\)](#)
- s. 124A inserted by [2023 c. 51 s. 3](#)