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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2020 No. 742**

The Marriage and Civil Partnership  
(Northern Ireland) Regulations 2020

PART 4

Other Amendments of Legislation

**Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation**

**14.**—(1) In the Equality Act (Sexual Orientation) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006<sup>(1)</sup>, in regulation 16 (exceptions from liability: organisations relating to religion or belief)—

(a) in paragraph (5) (purposes for which restrictions may be imposed), before the “or” at the end of sub-paragraph (b) insert—

“(ba) in connection with the solemnisation of a marriage;”, and

(b) in paragraph (5A)(a) (acts which would be unlawful but for paragraph (5)(c)), for “(5)(c)” substitute “(5)(ba) or (c)”.

(2) In the Sex Discrimination (Northern Ireland) Order 1976<sup>(2)</sup>—

(a) in Article 21(3) (requirements which can be imposed in relation to employment for religious purposes without being unlawful sex discrimination), omit sub-paragraphs (ca) and (cb) (requirements related to sexual orientation of employee), and

(b) omit Article 35A (religious organisation, or person acting on its behalf, not liable for unlawful sex discrimination where event to mark formation of a relationship is not provided because of the sex of either or each of the parties).

(3) In consequence of paragraph (2), omit regulation 133 of the 2019 Regulations.

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<sup>(1)</sup> S.R. 2006/439. Regulation 16 was amended by regulation 5 of S.R. 2007/261 and by regulation 163 of S.I. 2019/1514.

<sup>(2)</sup> S.I. 1976/1042 (N.I. 15). Articles 21(3)(ca) and (cb) and 35A were inserted by regulation 133 of S.I. 2019/1514.