

LAWS OF GUYANA

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

CHAPTER 1:09

Act
7 of 1973

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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.

7 of 1973

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

[1ST JANUARY, 1974]

Short title.

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

Reduction of the age of majority from twenty-one years to eighteen years.

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.

(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",

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“minority” and similar expressions in—

- (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 of 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

4. Anything in any law to the contrary notwithstanding a person who is not of full age may be

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age may be described as minors instead of infants. described as a minor instead of as an infant.

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SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION

O. 4/1974

AGE OF MAJORITY ORDER

made under section 2(3)

Citation.

1. (1) This Order may be cited as the Age of Majority Order.

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(2) The amendment effected by clause 2 to section 20 (b) of the Criminal Law (Procedure) Act shall have effect for the purposes of any revision of the list of jurors to be carried out pursuant to section 25 of that Act after the coming into force of this Order.

Statutory provisions Schedule.

2. In the statutory provisions specified in the Schedule for any reference to the age of twenty-one years there shall be substituted the reference to the age of eighteen years.

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[Subsidiary]

Age of Majority Order

SCHEDULE

STATUTORY PROVISIONS AMENDED BY SUBSTITUTING
EIGHTEEN YEARS FOR TWENTY-ONE YEARS

Enactment	
Short title	Section
Criminal Law (Offences) Act (Chapter 8:01)	2 (definition of “guardian”); 66(4); 88
Criminal Law (Procedure) Act (Chapter 10:01)	2 (definition of “guardian”); 20(b)
Guyana Citizenship Act (Chapter 14:01)	2(3)
Friendly Societies Act (Chapter 36:04)	29
New Building Society Act (Chapter 36:21)	9(2)
Marriage Act (Chapter 45:01)	31(1) and (2); 32(2); 41; 43 (2) (f); 47(2)(c); 65(3); 73(1); First Schedule – Form B
Infancy Act (Chapter 46:01)	6(1) and (2); 9; 10; 11(1) and (2)
Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act (Chapter 51:02)	33(3)
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Trade Unions Act
(Chapter 98:03) 28

Intoxicating Liquor Licensing
Act (Chapter 82:21) 12(1)

Land and Surveyors Act
(Chapter 97:01) 8
