



Family Law Act 1986

1986 CHAPTER 55

PART IV

MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

69 Short title, commencement and extent.

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Family Law Act 1986.
- (2) Sections 64 to 67 of this Act shall come into force at the end of the period of two months beginning with the day on which this Act is passed.
- (3) Subject to subsection (2) above, this Act shall come into force on such day as the relevant Minister or Ministers may by order made by statutory instrument appoint; and different days may be so appointed for different provisions or for different purposes.
- (4) In subsection (3) above “the relevant Minister or Ministers” means—
 - (a) in the case of an order which appoints a day only for Part III of this Act and its associated amendments and repeals, the Lord Chancellor;
 - (b) in any other case, the Lord Chancellor and the Lord Advocate.
- (5) The following provisions of this Act, namely—
 - Chapter II of Part I;
 - section 53;
 - Part III;
 - sections 64 and 65;
 - section 68 (3); and
 - paragraphs 9 to 17, 19 and 23 to 27 of Schedule 1 and section 68(1) so far as relating to those paragraphs,extend to England and Wales only.
- (6) The following provisions of this Act, namely—
 - Chapter III of Part I;
 - section 26; and

Changes to legislation: Family Law Act 1986, Section 69 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 19 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

paragraphs 1, 3 to 8, 18, 21 and 22 of Schedule 1 and section 68(1) so far as relating to those paragraphs,

extend to Scotland only; and sections 34 and 38 of this Act do not extend to Scotland.

(7) The following provisions of this Act, namely—

Chapter IV of Part I;

F1 . . .

section 68(4); and

paragraphs 2 and 32 to 34 of Schedule 1 and section 68(1) so far as relating to those paragraphs,

extend to Northern Ireland only; and paragraph 20 of Schedule 1 to this Act and section 68(1) of this Act so far as relating to that paragraph do not extend to Northern Ireland.

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in s. 69(7) repealed (N.I.) (4.11.1996) by S.I. 1995/755 (N.I. 2), art. 185(2), Sch. 10; S.R. 1996/297, art. 2(2)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C1 Power of appointment conferred by s. 69(3) partly exercised: 4.4.1988 appointed for all the prospective provisions of the Act except Sch. 1 para. 10(3) by S.I. 1988/375, art. 2

Changes to legislation:

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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. 1(1)(ca)-(cc) inserted by [2022 c. 18 \(N.I.\) Sch. 3 para. 7](#)
- s. 2A(1)(1A) substituted for s. 2(1) by [1996 c. 27 Sch. 8 para. 37\(3\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Sch. 8 Pt. I repealed (except for paras. 4, 16(1)(5)(a)(6)(b)(7)) (13.5.2014) by Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), ss. 18(2)(e), 139(4))
- s. 19(1A)-(1C) inserted by [2022 c. 18 \(N.I.\) Sch. 3 para. 8](#)
- s. 29A inserted by [2020 asp 16 s. 29\(2\)](#)
- s. 38(4) inserted by [1996 c. 27 Sch. 8 para. 37\(9\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Sch. 8 Pt. I repealed (except for paras. 4, 16(1)(5)(a)(6)(b)(7)) (13.5.2014) by Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), ss. 18(2)(e), 139(4))