

CONFIDENTIAL

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PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PUNJAB REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT REGARDING THE CHILD MARRIAGE RESTRAINT (AMENDMENT) BILL 2015 (BILL NO.11 OF 2015)

The Child Marriage Restraint (Amendment) Bill 2015 (Bill No.11 of 2015) (Annexed) was referred to the Standing Committee on Local Government and Rural Development on 3 March 2015. The Committee considered the bill in its meeting held on 16 April, 2015.

2. The following were present:—

1.	Ch Abdul Razzaq Dhillon, MPA (PP-33)	Chairman
2.	Chaudhary Muhammad Ashraf Warraich, MPA (PP-97)	Member
3.	Ms Surriya Naseem, MPA (W-322)	Member
4.	Mr Ghazanfar Abbas Chheena, MPA (PP-49)	Member
5.	Mian Khurram Jahangir Wattoo, MPA (PP-193)	Mover

3. Mr Moazzam Ali Janjua, Additional Secretary (Local Government), Government of the Punjab, Local Government and Community Development Department and Mr Mohsin Abbas Syed, Director, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Department represented their Departments. Hafiz Muhammad Shafiq Adil, Special Secretary, Provincial Assembly of the Punjab functioned as Secretary to the Committee.

4. Mr Mohsin Abbas Syed, Director Law and Parliamentary Affairs Department apprised the Committee that the said private bill titled "*The Child Marriage Restraint (Amendment) Bill 2015 (Bill No 11 of 2015), moved by Mian Khurram Jhangir Watto, MPA*" regarding the enhancement of punishment in the Act, 1929. He further stated that the proposed punishments had already been considered and passed by the Assembly through a Government Bill on the eve of The Women International Day held on 18 March 2015. He also appreciated the efforts contributed by Mian Khurram Jahangir Wattoo, MPA/Mover regarding moving of such an important private bill.

5. Mian Khurram Jhangir Wattoo, MPA also appreciated the efforts made by the Government regarding the enhancement of punishments in the Principal Act, therefore, he decided to withdraw the said proposed bill in the public interest.

Lahore
16 April, 2015

(CH ABDUL RAZZAQ DHILLON)
Chairman
Standing Committee on Local Government
and Rural Development

Lahore
16 April, 2015


(RAI MUMTAZ HUSSAIN BABAR)
Secretary

(ANNEXURE)

PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PUNJAB

THE CHILD MARRIAGE RESTRAINT (AMENDMENT) BILL 2015
Bill No. 11 of 2015

A
Bill

further to amend the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929.

Whereas it is expedient *further to amend the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 (XIX of 1929), for the purpose hereinafter appearing;*

It is hereby enacted as follows:

1. Short title and commencement.— (1) This Act may be called the Child Marriage Restraint (Amendment) Act, 2015.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Amendment in Section 4 of Act XIX of 1929.— In the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 (XIX of 1929), hereinafter referred to as the said Act, in Section 4, the words “one month” shall be substituted with the words “three years” and the words “one thousand rupees” shall be substituted with the words “one hundred thousand rupees”.

3. Amendment in Section 5 of Act XIX of 1929.— In the said Act, in Section 5, the words “one month” shall be substituted with the words “one year” and the words “one thousand rupees” shall be substituted with the words “fifty thousand rupees”.

4. Amendment in Section 6 of Act XIX of 1929.— In the said Act, in Section 6, in sub-section(1), the words “one month” shall be substituted with the words “six months” and the words “one thousand rupees” shall be substituted with the words “thirty thousand rupees”.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 was last amended in 1971 and few changes were made. We have seen many cases of child forced marriages either by parents or guardians or third party. Laws regulating Child marriage restraints were neither strong enough to carry society as per Islamic Laws nor it gives proper security to fundamental rights of children. We cannot change Islamic Laws as they are derived from Quran. This amendment will make our future generations save from child abuse in accordance with Islamic laws and fundamental rights. It is the responsibility of our state to fulfill International commitments on child rights. According to United Nations gathering of 189 member states in 2000 set “The Millennium Development Goals Set Priorities for Children” and this law will be a step forwarded.

Hence this Bill.

MIAN KHURRAM JAHANGIR WATTOO
MPA (PP-193)
MEMBER-IN-CHARGE

LAHORE:
03 March 2015

RAI MUMTAZ HUSSAIN BABAR
Secretary