



# Minors' Contracts Amendment Act 2005

Public Act 2005 No 16  
Date of assent 24 March 2005  
Commencement see section 2

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## The Parliament of New Zealand enacts as follows:

### 1 Title

- (1) This Act is the Minors' Contracts Amendment Act 2005.
- (2) In this Act, the Minors' Contracts Act 1969 is called "the principal Act".

### 2 Commencement

This Act comes into force on 26 April 2005.

### 3 Interpretation

- (1) Section 2(1) of the principal Act is amended by inserting, after the definition of **Court**, the following definition:  
"minor means a person who has not attained the age of 18 years; and a person is of **full age** if he or she has attained the age of 18 years".
- (2) Section 2 of the principal Act is amended by repealing subsection (2).

**4 Married minors**

- (1) The principal Act is amended by repealing section 4.
- (2) Section 66C of the Life Insurance Act 1908 is consequentially amended by repealing subsection (5).

**5 Contracts of minors of or over the age of 18 years, certain contracts concerning life insurance, and contracts of service**

- (1) Section 5 of the principal Act is amended by omitting the heading and substituting “**Certain contracts concerning life insurance, and contracts of service**”.
- (2) Section 5 of the principal Act is amended by repealing subsection (1)(a).

**6 Contracts of minors below the age of 18 years**

- (1) Section 6 of the principal Act is amended by omitting the heading and substituting “**Contracts of minors**”.
- (2) Section 6 of the principal Act is amended by repealing subsection (1) and substituting the following subsection:  
“(1) Subject to the provisions of this section, every contract (other than a contract to which paragraph (b) or paragraph (c) of subsection 5(1) applies) entered into by a minor is unenforceable against the minor but otherwise has effect as if the minor were of full age.”

**7 Settlement of claims by minors**

- (1) Section 12(5) of the principal Act is amended by omitting the expression “20”, and substituting the expression “18”.
- (2) Section 12(5) of the principal Act is amended by inserting, after the word “marrying”, the words “or entering into a civil union or a de facto relationship”.

**8 Agreements relating to trusts**

Section 16(2) of the principal Act is amended by inserting, after the word “married”, the words “, in a civil union, or in a de facto relationship”.

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**Legislative history**

10 March 2005	Divided from Relationships (Statutory References) Bill (Bill 151-2) as Bill 151-3M
15 March 2005	Third reading
24 March 2005	Royal assent

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This Act is administered in the Ministry of Justice.

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