

BILL OF THE IMPERIAL DIET

BILL OF MATRIMONIAL CONSENT, 1771

Not enacted

Introduced in the House of Commons with intention of passage into the House of Lords.

INTRODUCTION

A holdover from the feudal era, the travesty of forced marriages has plagued Oren for far too long. The right to liberty for all men is enshrined within our codes. To force a woman or man into a union against their will flies directly in the face of Oren's new and modern principles, as well as Oren's commitment to liberty for all citizens. The Marital Consent bill -- if signed into law -- will provide greater protection against intimate partner violence for both women and men. This bill will also enshrine the holy institution of marriage as an act of consensual love and mutual growth, rather than a tool used for abuse.

SECTION I on Matrimonial Consent:

1. **Rule 301.033** of the Orenian Reformed Code, providing *"There shall be no marriage without matrimonial consent"* shall be amended to provide as follows:

a. *"There shall be no marriage without consent from the man and the woman. If consent is given under duress and the marriage proceeds, it is to be considered unlawful and null."*

2. **Rule 301.0313** of the Orenian Reformed Code, providing *"All marriages require the consent of the man and the legal patriarch of the woman participating in matrimony. If this patriarchal prerogative is withheld and the marriage proceeds, it is to be considered unlawful and null"* shall be amended to provide as follows:

a. *"In the case of marriages of the princes, landed lords and their direct line relatives of consanguinity, express permission to marry must be sought from and granted by the eldest direct male kin of the woman. If the woman in question lacks an eldest direct male kin, she may give consent herself. If this patriarchal prerogative is withheld and the marriage proceeds, it is to be considered unlawful and null."*

We propose these changes before the House for the following reasons. There is confusion about the definition of matrimonial consent among the citizenry. The amendment will provide a simple, inarguable, and clear definition of what it means to give consent and who must give consent for a marriage to be legally valid. Requiring the consent of the woman prevents forceful unions in which a woman is married against her will to a man -- which will provide greater protection against instances of spousal abuse and contribute hopefully to more firm and healthful unions between Orenian men and women.

SECTION II on minors:

1. **Rule 301.035** of the Oren Reformed Code, providing "*Minors may not marry without the consent of their father or guardian*" shall be amended to provide as follows:

a. "*Persons below the age of 16 may not marry.*"

We propose these changes for the following reasons. The current Canonist law stipulates that minors are not allowed to marry even with parental consent. The marriage laws listed in the Oren Reformed Code must be updated to reflect that.

Introduced by Member of Commons Juan de Ponce de Lyons on Tobias' Bounty, 1771

Issued and proclaimed,

[IMPERIAL ASSENT - Signature goes here when obtained from the Crown.]