

# STATE OF NEW YORK

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6272

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

April 20, 2021

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Introduced by Sen. HELMING -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs

AN ACT to amend the domestic relations law and the executive law, in relation to allowing marriages within twenty-four hours of receiving a marriage license

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Section 13-b of the domestic relations law, as amended by  
2 chapter 35 of the laws of 2017, is amended to read as follows:

3 § 13-b. Time within which marriage may be solemnized. [~~A~~] 1. Except  
4 as provided in subdivision two of this section, a marriage shall not be  
5 solemnized within twenty-four hours after the issuance of the marriage  
6 license, unless authorized by an order of a court of record as herein-  
7 after provided, nor shall it be solemnized after sixty days from the  
8 date of the issuance of the marriage license unless authorized pursuant  
9 to section three hundred fifty-four-d of the executive law. Every  
10 license to marry hereafter issued by a town or city clerk, in addition  
11 to other requirements specified by this chapter, must contain a state-  
12 ment of the day and the hour the license is issued and the period during  
13 which the marriage may be solemnized. It shall be the duty of the cler-  
14 gyman or magistrate performing the marriage ceremony, or if the marriage  
15 is solemnized by written contract, of the judge before whom the contract  
16 is acknowledged, to annex to or endorse upon the marriage license the  
17 date and hour the marriage is solemnized. A judge or justice of the  
18 supreme court of this state or the county judge of the county in which  
19 either party to be married resides, or if such party is at least seven-  
20 teen years of age, the judge of the family court of such county, if it  
21 shall appear from an examination of the license and any other proofs  
22 submitted by the parties that one of the parties is in danger of immi-  
23 nent death, or by reason of other emergency public interest will be

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[~~-~~] is old law to be omitted.

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1 promoted thereby, or that such delay will work irreparable injury or  
2 great hardship upon the contracting parties, or one of them, may, upon  
3 making written affirmative findings under subdivision three of section  
4 fifteen of this article, make an order authorizing the immediate solem-  
5 nization of the marriage and upon filing such order with the clergyman  
6 or magistrate performing the marriage ceremony, or if the marriage is to  
7 be solemnized by written contract, with the judge before whom the  
8 contract is acknowledged, such clergyman or magistrate may solemnize  
9 such marriage, or such judge may take such acknowledgment as the case  
10 may be, without waiting for such three day period and twenty-four hour  
11 period to elapse. The clergyman, magistrate or judge must file such  
12 order with the town or city clerk who issued the license within five  
13 days after the marriage is solemnized. Such town or city clerk must  
14 record and index the order in the book required to be kept by him or her  
15 for recording affidavits, statements, consents and licenses, and when so  
16 recorded the order shall become a public record and available in any  
17 prosecution under this section. A person who shall solemnize a marriage  
18 in violation of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon  
19 conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of fifty dollars for each  
20 offense, and in addition thereto, his or her right to solemnize a  
21 marriage shall be suspended for ninety days.

22 2. Notwithstanding the twenty-four hour waiting period prescribed in  
23 subdivision one of this section, any military personnel whose scheduled  
24 military deployment is less than thirty days away may get married within  
25 twenty-four hours of receiving a marriage license.

26 § 2. Section 354-d of the executive law, as added by chapter 723 of  
27 the laws of 2005 and as renumbered by chapter 652 of the laws of 2007,  
28 is amended to read as follows:

29 § 354-d. Time within which marriage may be solemnized; member of the  
30 armed forces. 1. Notwithstanding section thirteen-b of the domestic  
31 relations law, where either of the parties making application for a  
32 marriage license, pursuant to section thirteen of the domestic relations  
33 law, is a member of the armed forces of the United States on active duty  
34 the marriage of the parties shall not be solemnized within twenty-four  
35 hours after the issuance of the marriage license, nor shall it be solem-  
36 nized after one hundred eighty days from the date of the issuance of the  
37 marriage license. Proof that the applicant is a member of the armed  
38 forces of the United States shall be furnished to the satisfaction of  
39 the official issuing the marriage license. Every license to marry issued  
40 pursuant to the provisions of this section shall state the day and hour  
41 the license is issued and shall contain a recital that it is issued  
42 pursuant to the provisions of this section.

43 2. Notwithstanding the twenty-four hour waiting period prescribed in  
44 subdivision one of this section, any military personnel whose scheduled  
45 military deployment is less than thirty days away may get married within  
46 twenty-four hours of receiving a marriage license.

47 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately.