



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Stephanie A. Miner, Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

New York State has enacted legislation to prohibit minors under the age of seventeen to marry and amended the process to require court approval for marriages of persons at least seventeen years of age but under eighteen.

Bill Title:
Senate 4407B

An act to amend the domestic relations law, in relation to increasing the age of consent for purpose of marriage to the age of seventeen.

Justification:

As a matter of public policy, no parent or court should be permitted to bind a child under the age of seventeen to a contract where the child lacks the opportunity as well as the capacity to consent.

Governor Andrew Cuomo signed this legislation on June 20, 2017 and it became law on July 20, 2017 and is in full force at all City Clerk and Town Clerk Offices.

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Prior to July 20, 2017 - Marriage Age Requirements:

- If either applicant is under fourteen years of age, a marriage license cannot be issued.
- If either applicant is fourteen or fifteen years of age, such applicant (s) must present the written consent of both parents and a justice of the Supreme Court or a judge of the Family Court having jurisdiction over the town or city in which the application is made.
- If either applicant is sixteen or seventeen years of age, such applicant (s) must produce written consent from both parents.
- If both applicants are eighteen years of age or older no consent is required.

Contact: John P. Copanas, Syracuse City Clerk