

Country Code:	BB 1974 ACT 18
Title:	MINORS ACT
Country:	BARBADOS
Date of entry into force:	May 23, 1974
Date of Amendment:	
Subject:	Children – Law – Barbados
Key words:	Age of majority; Infant; Minor, meaning of

# MINORS ACT, 1974-18

## *Arrangement of Sections*

### Section

1. Short Title.
2. Definition of Minor.
3. Amendment of Section 1 of Act 1958-19.
4. Repeal of Section 3 of Act 1958-19.
5. Amendment of Section 24 of Act 1958-19.
6. Time at which a person attains a particular age.

### SCHEDULE

BARBADOS.

I assent

A. WINSTON SCOTT

Governor-General

23rd April, 1974

**1974-18**

*An Act to amend the law relating to the age of majority, to persons who have not attained that age and to the time when a particular age is attained, and for connected purposes.*

**Commencement**

(23rd May, 1974)

ENACTED by the Parliament of Barbados as follows:-

**Short title**

1. This Act may be cited as the Minors Act, 1974 and shall be read as one with the Infants Act, 1958 as hereinafter amended.

**Definition of minor.**

2. A person who is not of full age may be described as a minor instead of as an infant, and accordingly in this Act and in the Infants Act, 1958 "minor" means such a person as aforesaid.

**Amendment I of section 1 of Act 1958-19.**

3. Section 1 of the Infants Act, 1958 is amended by deleting the word "Infants" and substituting therefor the word "Minors".

**Repeal of section 3 of Act 1958-19.**

4. Section 3 of the Infants Act, 1958 is hereby repealed and the following section substituting therefor:

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"3 (1) A person shall attain full age on attaining the age of eighteen instead of on attaining the age of twenty one; and a person shall attain full age on the date this Act comes into force if he has then already attained the age of eighteen but not the age of twenty one.

(2) The foregoing subsection applies for the purposes of any rule of law, and, in the absence of a definition of any indication of a contrary intention, for the construction of "full age", "infant", "infancy", "minor", "minority" and similar expressions in-

- (a) any statutory provision whether passed or made before, on or after the date on which this Act comes into force; and
- (b) any deed, will or other instrument of whatever nature (not being a statutory provision) made on or after that date.

(3) In any statute or statutory instrument where infancy or minority is defined, whether expressly or by necessity implication, by reference to the age of twenty one years there shall be substituted a reference to the age of eighteen years.

(4) Notwithstanding any rule of law, a will or codicil executed before the date on which this Act comes into force shall not be treated for the purposes of this section as made on or after that date by reason only that the will or codicil is confirmed by a codicil executed on or after that date.

(5) Without prejudice to the generality of sub-section (3), in the statutory provisions specified in the Schedule to this Act the words "twenty one years" are hereby deleted and the words "eighteen years" substituted.

### **Amendment of section 24 of Act 1958-19**

5. Section 24 of the Infants Act, 1958 is hereby amended by deleting the following words: "male infant under the age of twenty years, or to any female" appearing in lines three and four, thereof.

### **Time at which a person attains a particular age.**

6. (1) The time at which a person attains a particular age expressed in years shall be the commencement of the relevant anniversary of the date of his birth.

(2) This section applies only where the relevant anniversary falls on a date after that on which this Act comes into force, and in relation to any enactment, deed, will or other instrument, has effect subject to any provision therein.

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**Schedule**

*Enactments amended*

<i>Reference</i>	<i>Short Title</i>	<i>Sections</i>
1891- 1	Wills Act, 1891	3
1894- 3	Druggists Act,	4, 6
1905- 1	Friendly Societies Act, 1905	37
1955-19	Adoption Act, 1955	14(1)
1962-28	Punishment of Incest Act, 1962	2(4)(a)
1964- 2	Trade Union Act, 1964	25
1970- 23	Juries Act, 1970	4(1)(a)