

AS
[TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE]

A

BILL

further to amend the Family Courts Act, 1964, to the extent of the Islamabad Capital Territory.

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Family Courts Act, 1964, (XXXV of 1964), to the extent of the Islamabad Capital Territory, for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

AND WHEREAS elderly and infirm parents who are unable to maintain themselves require a clear and speedy remedy for maintenance before the Family Court;

AND WHEREAS the Schedule to the Family Courts Act, 1964 already includes maintenance as a family matter, but it does not expressly mention maintenance of parents;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. **Short title, extent and commencement.**- (1) This Act may be called the Family Courts (Amendment) Act, 2026.

(2) It shall come into force at once.
2. **Amendment of Schedule, Act XXXV of 1964.**- In the Family Courts Act, 1964 (XXXV of 1964), in the Schedule, in Part I, for entry 3, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“3. Maintenance, including maintenance of parents.”

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Family Courts Act, 1964 provides a special forum for expeditious settlement and disposal of disputes relating to marriage and family affairs. Under section 5 of the Act, Family Courts have jurisdiction over matters specified in Part I of the Schedule, and entry 3 of Part I already relates to maintenance. However, the existing entry does not expressly mention maintenance of parents and grandparents. This creates uncertainty for elderly and infirm parents and grandparents who are unable to maintain themselves and require a clear, simple and speedy remedy.

2. This Bill seeks to amend the Schedule to the Family Courts Act, 1964, as applicable to the Islamabad Capital Territory, by clarifying that maintenance includes maintenance of parents and grandparents. The purpose is to provide elderly and infirm parents and grandparents with an express remedy before the Family Court without creating a complicated new procedure. The proposed entry uses the Act's existing mechanism: section 5 for jurisdiction, Schedule Part I entry 3 for maintenance, section 17A for interim maintenance, and section 13 for enforcement of decrees.

SENATOR SAMINA MUMTAZ ZEHRI
Member-in-Charge