[TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE]

A BILL

further to amend the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 (XIX of 1929) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

- 1. Short title, extent and commencement. (1) This Act may be called the Child Marriage Restraint (Amendment) Act, 2023.
 - (2) It shall extend to the Islamabad Capital Territory.
 - (3) It shall come into force at once.
- 2. Amendment of Section 4, Act XIX of 1929 In the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 (XIX of 1929), hereinafter referred to as the said Act, in section 4, for the phrase, "simple imprisonment which may extend to one month or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees" the phrase, "two years imprisonment and a fine of five hundred thousand rupees,"shall be substituted.
- 3. Amendment of Section 5, Act XIX of 1929.— In the said Act, in section 5, for the phrase, "simple imprisonment which may extend to one month or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, "the phrase, "two years imprisonment and a fine of five hundred thousand rupees," shall be substituted.
- 4. Amendment of Section 6, Act XIX of 1929.— In the said Act, in section 6, in sub-section (1), for the phrase, "simple imprisonment which may extend to one month or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, "the phrase, "two years imprisonment and a fine of five hundred thousand rupees," shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The purpose of bringing this amendment is to increase the punishments for the people, who, being an adult male above the age of eighteen years, contract a marriage with a minor girl child, or the person who solemnises such a marriage, or the parent/guardian of such a child, who permits such a marriage. It will not only create deterrence in society, but also discourage people, who are involved in arranging, allowing, and conducting child marriages to a greater extent.

2. This bill is aimed to achieve the above-said objective.

SENATOR BAHRAMAND KHAN TANGI Member-In-Charge