

I. DECLARATORY ACT ANENT RECOGNITION OF MARRIAGE SERVICES (AS AMENDED BY ACT II 2004)

Edinburgh, 24th May 1977, Session 1.

The General Assembly declare as follows:-

1. The Church of Scotland recognises as sufficient for the solemnisation of marriage any form of ceremony which is in accordance with the terms of Sections 2 and 3 below.
2. Marriage in the Church of Scotland is solemnised by an ordained minister in a religious ceremony wherein, before God, and in the presence of the minister and at least two competent witnesses, the parties covenant together to take each other as husband and wife as long as they both shall live, and the minister declares the parties to be husband and wife.
3. Before solemnising a marriage a minister must be assured that the necessary legal requirements have been complied with and that the parties know of no legal impediment to their marriage, and he or she must afterwards ensure that the Marriage Schedule is duly completed.
4. For the purposes of this Act, the term 'minister' shall be deemed to include 'deacon'.