

I assent.

(L.S.)

GEORGE VELLA
President

15th March, 2024

ACT No. XI of 2024

AN ACT to further amend the Criminal Code, Cap. 9.

BE IT ENACTED by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the House of Representatives, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:-

1. The short title of this Act is the Criminal Code (Amendment No. 5) Act, 2024 and this Act shall be read and construed as one with the Criminal Code, hereinafter referred to as "the Code".

Short title.

Cap. 9.

2. Immediately after article 251E of the Code there shall be added the following new article:

Addition of new article to the Code.

"Virginity testing.

251EA. (1) Whosoever carries out virginity testing upon another person by examining the female genitalia of that person shall be guilty of an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to the punishment of imprisonment for a term of not less than one (1) year but not exceeding five (5) years.

(2) Whosoever aids, abets, counsels, incites, procures, coerces or advertises virginity testing shall be guilty of an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to the punishment provided for in sub-article (1).

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(3) For the purposes of this article "female genitalia" means vagina or vulva, and "virginity testing" means the examination of female genitalia, with or without consent, for the purpose or purported purpose of determining virginity:

Provided that it does not include any medical examination of the female genitalia which may be carried out by a medical professional during a medical intervention, in accordance with established medical practices."

Passed by the House of Representatives at Sitting No. 218 of the 11th March, 2024.

ANĠLU FARRUGIA
Speaker

ELEANOR SCERRI
Clerk of the House of Representatives

