

**[ REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8533, February 23, 1998 ]**

**AN ACT AMENDING TITLE I, CHAPTER 3, ARTICLE 39 OF  
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 209, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE  
FAMILY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, NULLIFYING THE  
PRESCRIPTIVE PERIOD FOR ACTION OR DEFENSES GROUNDED  
ON PSYCHOLOGICAL INCAPACITY**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in  
Congress assembled:*

SECTION 1. Title I, Chapter 3, Article 39 of Executive Order No. 209, otherwise  
known as the Family Code of the Philippines, is hereby amended to read as follows:

**"TITLE I - MARRIAGE**

**"CHAPTER 3 - VOID AND VOIDABLE MARRIAGES**

"Art. 39. The action or defense for the declaration of absolute nullity of a  
marriage shall not prescribe."

SEC. 2. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days  
following its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general  
circulation.

Approved,

**(Sgd.) JOSE DE VENECIA JR.**  
*Speaker of the House of  
Representatives*

**(Sgd.) NEPTALI A. GONZALES**  
*President of the Senate*

This Act, which originated from the Senate was finally passed by the Senate and the  
House of Representatives on February 11, 1998 and February 13, 1998,  
respectively.

**(Sgd.) ROBERTO P. NAZARENO**  
*Secretary General House of  
Representatives*

**(Sgd.) HEZEL P. GACUTAN**  
*Secretary of the Senate*

Approved: February 23, 1998.

**(Sgd.) FIDEL V. RAMOS**  
*President of the Philippines*

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