

---

By: **Delegate Kullen**  
Introduced and read first time: February 21, 2005  
Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

---

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Law - Absolute Divorce - Modification of the Name of a Child**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a court to modify the name of a child born to certain  
4 parties under certain circumstances; requiring the child's name to be in a  
5 certain form; and generally relating to the modification of the name of a child in  
6 a divorce proceeding.

7 BY adding to  
8 Article - Family Law  
9 Section 7-108  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2004 Replacement Volume)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article - Family Law**

15 7-108.

16 (A) IN GRANTING A DECREE OF ABSOLUTE DIVORCE, THE COURT MAY MODIFY  
17 THE NAME OF A CHILD BORN TO THE PARTIES IF:

18 (1) A PARENT OF THE CHILD REQUESTS THE CHILD'S NAME TO BE  
19 MODIFIED; AND

20 (2) (I) BOTH PARENTS AGREE TO THE MODIFICATION OF THE NAME;  
21 OR

22 (II) IF ONE PARENT OBJECTS TO THE MODIFICATION OF THE NAME,  
23 THE COURT FINDS THAT THE MODIFICATION OF THE NAME IS IN THE BEST  
24 INTEREST OF THE CHILD.

25 (B) THE MODIFICATION OF THE CHILD'S NAME SHALL:

1 (1) INCLUDE THE MOTHER'S BIRTH NAME AND THE FATHER'S  
2 SURNAME; AND

3 (2) BE IN THE FOLLOWING FORM:

4 "MOTHER'S BIRTH NAME - FATHER'S SURNAME".

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
6 October 1, 2005.