

Chapter 121

**(House Bill 424)**

AN ACT concerning

**Washington County – Disposition of Marriage Ceremony Fee**

FOR the purpose of requiring the clerk of the circuit court for Washington County to pay a certain portion of a certain fee for performing a marriage ceremony to the Washington County Historical Society, Incorporated; requiring the Washington County Historical Society, Incorporated, to report annually on the use of certain funds; authorizing certain entities to request an audit of certain records of the Washington County Historical Society, Incorporated; and generally relating to the distribution of the fee for performing a marriage ceremony in Washington County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
Article – Family Law  
Section 2–410(a)(1) and (2)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

BY adding to  
Article – Family Law  
Section 2–410(a)(11)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

**Article – Family Law**

2–410.

(a) (1) Except as provided in this subsection, a judge, clerk, or deputy clerk may not receive any fee, remuneration, or gift for performing a marriage ceremony.

(2) (i) 1. A Maryland judge’s fee for performing a marriage ceremony is a nonrefundable fee, payable to the clerk before a marriage license is issued, in the amount of \$30 in Cecil County and \$25 in any other county.

2. The clerk’s or deputy clerk’s fee for performing a marriage ceremony is \$30 in Cecil County and \$25 in any other county.

(ii) Except as provided in paragraph (10) of this subsection, each month the clerk shall pay \$10 of each fee collected under this section into the general fund of the county.

(iii) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the clerk shall retain the remainder of each fee and deposit and disburse it in the same manner as other fees collected by the clerk.

**(11) (i) IN WASHINGTON COUNTY, FROM THE REMAINING \$15, THE CLERK SHALL PAY \$10 OF EACH FEE TO THE WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INCORPORATED.**

**(ii) THE WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INCORPORATED, SHALL REPORT ANNUALLY TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY AND THE MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST ON THE USE OF ALL FUNDS RECEIVED UNDER THIS SECTION.**

**(iii) THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OR THE MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST MAY REQUEST AT ANY TIME AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL RECORDS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INCORPORATED.**

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2019.

**Approved by the Governor, April 18, 2019.**