SENATE BILL 267

J14 lr 0067**CF HB 230** (PRE-FILED) By: Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee (By Request - Departmental -Transportation) Requested: September 10, 2023 Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2024 Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings Committee Report: Favorable with amendments Senate action: Adopted Read second time: February 10, 2024 CHAPTER AN ACT concerning Motor Vehicle Administration and Local Health Departments - Death **Certificates – Issuance of Copies** FOR the purpose of authorizing the Motor Vehicle Administration and local health departments to access electronically from the Maryland Department of Health a copy of a death certificate and, on request, provide any person authorized by regulations with a certified or abridged copy of a death certificate; authorizing the Administration and local health departments to set and collect a fee for processing and issuing death certificates, subject to certain limitations; and generally relating to the issuance of copies of death certificates. BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – Health – General Section 4–217(a), (c), and (d) Annotated Code of Maryland (2023 Replacement Volume) SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND. That the Laws of Maryland read as follows: Article - Health - General

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

<u>Underlining</u> indicates amendments to bill.

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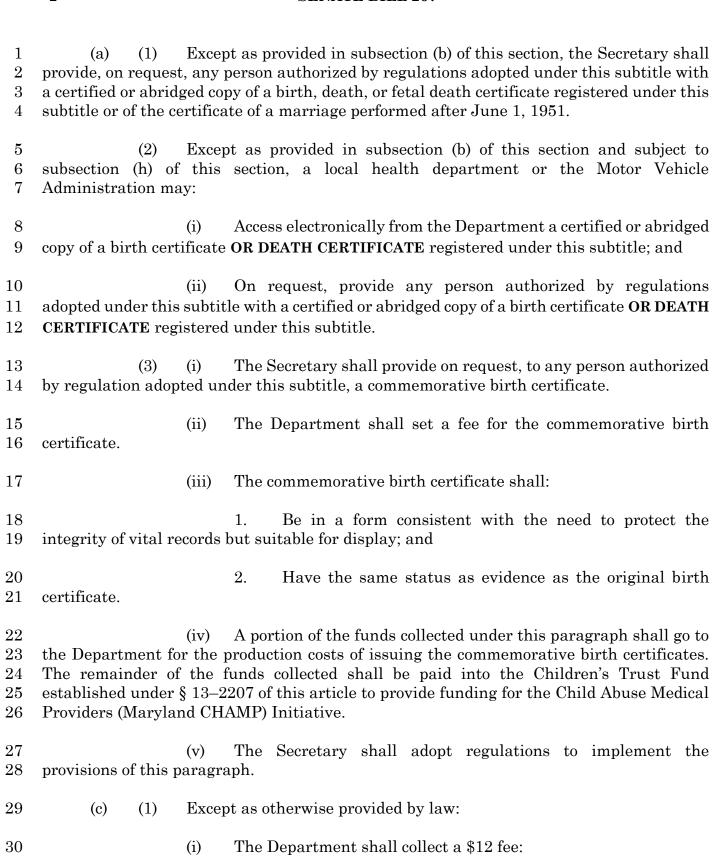
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4-217.

Strike out indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.





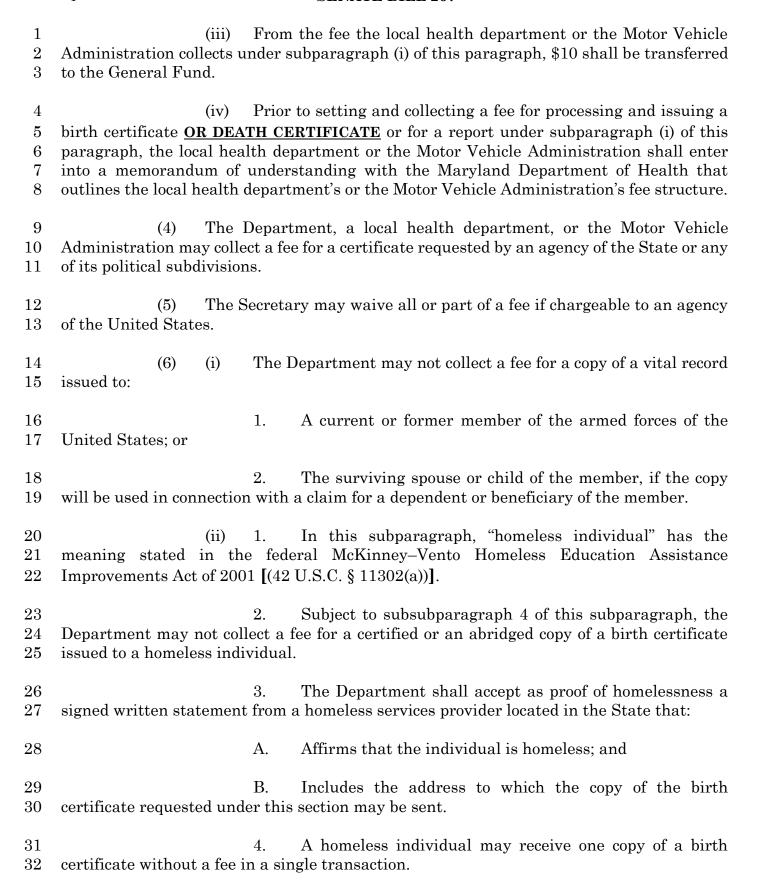
1. For each certified or abridged copy of a fetal death, marriage, or divorce verification certificate;

$1\\2$	2. For a report that a search of the fetal death, marriage, or divorce verification certificate files was made and the requested record is not on file;
3 4 5	3. For each change to a fetal death, marriage, or divorce verification certificate made later than [one] 1 year after the certificate has been registered with the Department; or
6	4. To process an adoption, foreign adoption, or legitimation;
7	(ii) The Department shall collect a \$10 fee:
8 9	1. Except as provided in paragraph (6)(ii) of this subsection, for each certified or abridged copy of a birth certificate;
10 11	2. For the first copy of a certified or abridged death certificate issued in a single transaction;
12 13	3. For a report that a search of the birth or death certificate files was made and the requested record is not on file; or
14 15	4. For each change to a birth or death certificate made later than 1 year after the certificate has been registered with the Department; and
16 17 18	(iii) The Department shall collect a \$12 fee for each additional certified or abridged copy of a death certificate provided concurrently with an initial requested death certificate.
19 20	(2) From the fee the Department collects under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Department shall transfer the entire fee to the General Fund.
21 22 23 24	(3) (i) Any local health department or the Motor Vehicle Administration may set and collect a fee for processing and issuing a birth certificate <u>OR</u> <u>DEATH CERTIFICATE</u> , or for a report that a search of the files was made and the requested record is not on file, that covers:
25	1. The administrative costs of providing this service; and
26	2. The requirements of subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph.
27 28 29 30 31	(ii) The fee set by the local health department or the Motor Vehicle Administration for processing and issuing a birth certificate or for a report under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph may not exceed the actual costs to the local health department or the Motor Vehicle Administration for processing and issuing a birth certificate <u>OR DEATH CERTIFICATE</u> or a report.

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subparagraph.



The Department shall adopt regulations to implement this

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1 2 3 4 5	(iii) The Department may not collect a fee for a certified or abridged copy of a death certificate of a first responder, as defined in § 18–213.2 of this article, killed in the line of duty, if the copy is issued to a surviving spouse or child of the first responder and will be used in connection with a claim for a dependent or beneficiary of the first responder.
6 7 8 9	(d) (1) (i) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, any local health department OR THE MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION may set and collect a fee for processing and issuing a death certificate that covers the administrative costs of providing this service.
10 11 12 13 14 15	(ii) A local health department OR THE MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION may not collect a fee for processing and issuing a certified or abridged copy of a death certificate of a first responder, as defined in § 18–213.2 of this article, killed in the line of duty, if the copy is issued to a surviving spouse or child of the first responder and will be used in connection with a claim for a dependent or beneficiary of the first responder.
16 17 18 19	(2) The fee set by the local health department OR THE MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION for processing and issuing a death certificate under this subsection may not exceed the actual costs to the local health department OR THE MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION for processing and issuing a death certificate.
20 21	SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2024.
	Approved:
	Governor.
	President of the Senate.
	Speaker of the House of Delegates.