

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2024 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Third Reader**

Senate Bill 136

(Senators Jackson and Muse)

Judicial Proceedings

Judiciary

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**Family Law - Marriage Ceremony - Designation of Deputy Clerk**

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This bill transfers the authority to designate a deputy clerk to perform a marriage ceremony from the county administrative judge to the clerk of the circuit court for the county.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill does not materially affect State operations or finances.

**Local Effect:** The bill does not materially affect local government operations or finances.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** A marriage ceremony may be performed in Maryland by specified individuals, including (1) any clerk or (2) any deputy clerk designated by the county administrative judge of the circuit court for the county.

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**Additional Information**

**Recent Prior Introductions:** Similar legislation has been introduced within the last three years. See SB 133 and HB 672 of 2023.

**Designated Cross File:** HB 300 (Delegate Toles, *et al.*) - Judiciary.

**Information Source(s):** Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts); Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - January 9, 2024  
rh/jkb Third Reader - March 13, 2024

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Analysis by: Amanda L. Douglas

Direct Inquiries to:  
(410) 946-5510  
(301) 970-5510