

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 601 (Delegate Doory, et al.)
Judiciary

Premarriage Education - Waiting Period

This bill lengthens the waiting period for marriage licenses from 48 hours to 60 days after an application is filed. Marriage licenses are allowed to be delivered sooner than 60 days if (1) the parties submit a certificate of completion of a “premarriage education course”; (2) there is certification from a physician that the woman is pregnant or has recently given birth; (3) one of the parties is in the U.S. armed forces; or (4) death is imminent for one of the parties.

The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is required to provide county clerks with information on the premarriage education course requirement and a list of such courses in the county.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill’s requirements pertaining to the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None. The extension of the waiting period would not have a fiscal impact on clerk offices.

Information Source(s): Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 9, 1996

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