

SENATE BILL 404
EMERGENCY BILL

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D4
HB 135/01 - JUD

2002 Regular Session
2r1651
CF HB 106

By: **Senators Forehand, Conway, and Teitelbaum**
Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2002
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Law - Marriage Ceremonies - Judges**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a judge to perform a marriage ceremony; defining a
4 certain term; making this Act an emergency measure; and generally relating to
5 marriage ceremonies.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article - Family Law
8 Section 2-406(a)
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

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

13 **Article - Family Law**

14 2-406.

15 (a) (1) IN THIS SUBSECTION, "JUDGE" MEANS A SITTING OR RETIRED JUDGE
16 OF THE DISTRICT COURT, A CIRCUIT COURT, THE COURT OF SPECIAL APPEALS, THE
17 COURT OF APPEALS, THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF
18 MARYLAND, OR THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT,
19 OR A SITTING OR RETIRED JUDGE OF ANOTHER STATE OR FEDERAL COURT THAT HAS
20 SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT JURISDICTION.

21 (2) A marriage ceremony may be performed in this State by:

22 [(1)] (I) any official of a religious order or body authorized by the rules
23 and customs of that order or body to perform a marriage ceremony;

24 [(2)] (II) any clerk; [or]

25 [(3)] (III) any deputy clerk designated by the county administrative judge
26 of the circuit court for the county; OR

1 (IV) A JUDGE.

2 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an
3 emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health
4 or safety, has been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the
5 members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take
6 effect from the date it is enacted.