
By: **Delegates Anderson, Busch, Benson, Boschert, Boteler, C. Davis, Elliott, Franchot, Frank, Hogan, Impallaria, Kelley, King, McComas, Murray, Myers, Oaks, Paige, Parrott, Ross, V. Turner, and Vaughn**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2005

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Law - Marriage Licenses - Premarital Preparation Course**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the waiting period for a marriage license to become
4 effective if the parties do not submit a certain certificate verifying that the
5 parties have completed a certain premarital preparation course; and generally
6 relating to marriage licenses.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - Family Law
9 Section 2-405
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

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

14 **Article - Family Law**

15 2-405.

16 (a) The clerk for the county in which a marriage ceremony is to be performed
17 may issue and deliver a license at the time the application is made.

18 (b) A license may be issued only at the office of the clerk during regular office
19 hours.

20 (c) (1) If either party to be married is known to be of an age where the
21 parental or guardian's consent and oath, or the licensed physician's certificate,
22 required by § 2-301 of this title, is required, the clerk shall obtain the consent and
23 oath or the certificate before issuing the license.

24 (2) (i) The clerk's record required under this title shall include:

1 (g) (1) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall provide to each
2 clerk:

3 (i) birth control information; and

4 (ii) a list of the family planning clinics located in the county where
5 the license is issued.

6 (2) When the clerk issues a license, the clerk shall make the information
7 and list available to each applicant for a license.

8 (h) (1) A clerk may not predate an application for a license.

9 (2) A clerk who violates any provision of this subsection is guilty of a
10 misdemeanor and on conviction is subject:

11 (i) for a first offense, to a fine not exceeding \$100; and

12 (ii) for each subsequent offense, to a fine not exceeding \$500 or
13 imprisonment not exceeding 90 days or both.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 October 1, 2005.