

HOUSE BILL 217

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8lr0126

By: **Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee (By Request – Departmental – Health and Mental Hygiene)**
Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2008
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vital Records – Copies to County Registrars of Vital Records**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to
4 provide a copy of an original birth certificate to the registrar for vital records of
5 a county or Baltimore City where the birth took place; requiring the Secretary
6 of the Department, under certain circumstances, to provide a copy of the
7 original birth, health, or fetal death certificate to the registrar in the county in
8 which the subject of the certificate resides or resided; authorizing county health
9 departments to use birth, death, and fetal death certificates to carry out public
10 health functions; and generally relating to vital records.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – Health – General
13 Section 4–204
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Health – General**

19 4–204.

20 (a) The Secretary shall collect, index, and safeguard from fire, loss, or
21 damage each certificate of birth, death, and fetal death.

22 (b) After registration of a completed **BIRTH**, [death] **DEATH**, or fetal death
23 certificate, the Secretary shall [send] **PROVIDE** a copy of the original certificate to the
24 county registrar for the county where the event occurred[. The copy may be

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 photographic or electronic or produced by other means as prescribed by the Secretary]
2 **AND THE COUNTY REGISTRAR WHERE THE SUBJECT OF THE CERTIFICATE**
3 **RESIDES OR RESIDED IF THE COUNTY OF RESIDENCE IS DIFFERENT FROM THE**
4 **COUNTY WHERE THE EVENT OCCURRED.**

5 (C) **A COPY OF A CERTIFICATE PROVIDED TO A COUNTY REGISTRAR**
6 **UNDER THIS SECTION MAY BE USED BY THE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO**
7 **CARRY OUT PUBLIC HEALTH FUNCTIONS.**

8 (D) **A COPY OF A CERTIFICATE PROVIDED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY BE**
9 **PHOTOGRAPHIC OR ELECTRONIC OR PRODUCED BY OTHER MEANS AS**
10 **PRESCRIBED BY THE SECRETARY.**

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
12 October 1, 2008.