

# SENATE BILL 715

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CF HB 832

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By: **Cecil County Senators**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2016

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Cecil County – Marriage Licenses – Applications**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing the requirement that, in Cecil County, both parties to be  
4 married appear together before the clerk to apply for a marriage license; and  
5 generally relating to applications for marriage licenses in Cecil County.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 Article – Family Law  
8 Section 2–402  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Family Law**

14 2–402.

15 (a) An applicant for a license may apply to the clerk only at the office of the clerk  
16 during regular office hours.

17 (b) Except as provided in [subsections] **SUBSECTION** (d) [and (e)] of this section,  
18 to apply for a license, 1 of the parties to be married shall:

19 (1) appear before the clerk and give, under oath, the following information,  
20 which shall be placed on an application form by the clerk:

21 (i) the full name of each party;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) the place of residence of each party;

2 (iii) the age of each party;

3 (iv) whether the parties are related by blood or marriage and, if so,  
4 in which degree of relationship;

5 (v) the marital status of each party; and

6 (vi) whether either party was married previously, and the date and  
7 place of each death or judicial determination that ended any former marriage;

8 (2) sign the application form; and

9 (3) provide the clerk with the Social Security number of each party who has  
10 a Social Security number.

11 (c) The Social Security numbers of the parties:

12 (1) shall be included in the electronic file for the marriage license  
13 application; and

14 (2) except as provided in § 4-334 of the General Provisions Article, may not  
15 be disclosed as part of the public record of the marriage license application.

16 (d) If the parties to be married are not residents of the county where the marriage  
17 ceremony is to be performed, the clerk shall accept, instead of the application specified in  
18 subsection (b) of this section, an affidavit from 1 of the parties to be married. The affidavit  
19 shall:

20 (1) contain the information required by subsection (b) of this section; and

21 (2) be sworn to under oath before a clerk or other comparable official in the  
22 county, state, province, or country where the party resides.

23 (e) [In Cecil County both parties to be married shall appear together before the  
24 clerk to apply for a license.

25 (f) Until a license becomes effective, a clerk may not disclose the fact that an  
26 application for a license has been made except to the parent or guardian of a party to be  
27 married.

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
29 October 1, 2016.