

# HOUSE BILL 452

D4

2lr2673  
CF SB 649

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By: **Delegate Kerr**

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2022

Assigned to: Judiciary

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 7, 2022

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Frederick County – Disposition of Marriage Ceremony Fee**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the clerk of the circuit court of Frederick County to pay a  
4 certain amount of a certain fee to Heritage Frederick; providing for the reporting and  
5 auditing of certain financial records; and generally relating to the distribution of the  
6 fee for performing a marriage ceremony in Frederick County.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
8 Article – Family Law  
9 Section 2–410(a)(1) and (2) and (b)  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

12 BY adding to  
13 Article – Family Law  
14 Section 2–410(a)(12)  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Family Law**

20 2–410.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (a) (1) Except as provided in this subsection, a judge, clerk, or deputy clerk  
2 may not receive any fee, remuneration, or gift for performing a marriage ceremony.

3 (2) (i) 1. A Maryland judge's fee for performing a marriage  
4 ceremony is a nonrefundable fee, payable to the clerk before a marriage license is issued,  
5 in the amount of \$30 in Cecil County and \$25 in any other county.

6 2. The clerk's or deputy clerk's fee for performing a marriage  
7 ceremony is \$30 in Cecil County and \$25 in any other county.

8 (ii) Except as provided in paragraph (10) of this subsection, each  
9 month the clerk shall pay \$10 of each fee collected under this section into the general fund  
10 of the county.

11 (iii) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the clerk shall  
12 retain the remainder of each fee and deposit and disburse it in the same manner as other  
13 fees collected by the clerk.

14 **(12) (I) IN FREDERICK COUNTY, THE CLERK SHALL PAY THE**  
15 **REMAINING \$15 TO HERITAGE FREDERICK.**

16 **(II) HERITAGE FREDERICK SHALL REPORT ANNUALLY TO THE**  
17 **FREDERICK COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND THE MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST ON THE**  
18 **USE OF ALL FUNDS RECEIVED UNDER THIS SECTION.**

19 **(III) THE FREDERICK COUNTY EXECUTIVE OR THE MARYLAND**  
20 **HISTORICAL TRUST MAY REQUEST AT ANY TIME AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL**  
21 **RECORDS OF HERITAGE FREDERICK.**

22 (b) (1) A clerk or deputy clerk may not violate any provision of this section.

23 (2) A clerk or deputy clerk who violates the provisions of this section is  
24 guilty of neglect of duty and on conviction is subject to removal from office.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
26 October 1, 2022.