

HOUSE BILL 1420

N2

5lr1328

By: **Delegates Woorman, Taveras, Acevero, Hill, S. Johnson, Kaiser, Kaufman, R. Lewis, Pasteur, Ruth, Schindler, Spiegel, Terrasa, White Holland, and Wims**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2025

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Registers of Wills – Identity Verification Without Government–Issued**
3 **Identification**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the register of wills for each county and Baltimore City, in
5 consultation with the Maryland Registers of Wills Association, to offer a method by
6 which an individual without government–issued identification may prove the
7 individual’s identity as an heir or a beneficiary of a will; and generally relating to
8 identity verification with a register of wills.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Estates and Trusts

11 Section 2–216

12 Annotated Code of Maryland

13 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Estates and Trusts**

17 **2–216.**

18 **EACH REGISTER, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE MARYLAND REGISTERS OF**
19 **WILLS ASSOCIATION, SHALL OFFER A METHOD BY WHICH AN INDIVIDUAL WITHOUT**
20 **GOVERNMENT–ISSUED IDENTIFICATION MAY PROVE THE INDIVIDUAL’S IDENTITY AS**
21 **AN HEIR OR A BENEFICIARY OF A WILL.**

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 October 1, 2025.