



SB 377 - Marriage Records - Name Change

Position: Support

We, the board of directors of Annapolis Pride, support SB 377. This bill requires all County Clerks in Maryland to, upon request of the married parties, change their marriage record using gender neutral language and also to allow for updated name changes, without reflecting that the record has been “amended”.

Under current law, it is difficult—if not in many cases impossible—to update one's name on a marriage certificate. This bill, which was developed with input from county clerks, would create a simple process where a couple may apply in writing and submit a certified copy of a name change order and the county clerks are required to provide an updated marriage record.

For the LGBTQ community, these are critically important updates to Maryland's marriage laws that will bring much needed peace of mind. We believe strongly that all Marylanders should be provided with the appropriate privacy and protection regarding marriage record changes.

We urge a favorable report.