

**SB0097 Clerks of the Circuit Courts – Bonds, Licenses, Oaths, and Commissions**  
**Judicial Proceedings Committee – February 3, 2022**  
**Sponsor: Senator Pamela Beidle**  
**Position: Favorable with Amendments**

**Testimony of Scott Poyer, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Anne Arundel County**

Thank you, Chairman Smith and members of the committee for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 97. For the record, my name is Scott Poyer, Clerk of the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County. My testimony today is on behalf of the Maryland Circuit Court Clerks' Association, which represents the elected Clerks of the Circuit Court in Maryland.

Our Clerk's Association supports SB 97 because these sections of the Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article need to be updated to reflect current technology and state of practice, specifically:

The proposed changes in §2-106, remove the requirement that Clerks of the Circuit Court obtain separate bonds. This is based on an opinion from the Attorney General indicating that the Clerks of the Circuit Court are covered by a blanket bond that has been issued by the Insurance Division of the State Treasurer for many years.

The proposed changes in §2-208, amend the requirement that the Clerks obtain a sufficient number of blank paper business licenses each year. This change is because pre-printed blank paper licenses are no longer required. Licenses have been printed via computer for approximately the last 30 years.

The proposed changes in §2-210, amend the requirement to account for pre-printed blank paper licenses because blank paper licenses are no longer issued and accounted for by the Comptroller. The process was computerized approximately 30 years ago.

My colleague will talk about sections 2-211 and 2-212.

Our Association hopes you will look favorably on the changes proposed in SB 97. And we would like to thank Senator Beidle for sponsoring this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.