

**SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 4547**

A bill to amend 1887 PA 128, entitled
"An act establishing the minimum ages for contracting marriages; to require a civil license in order to marry and its registration; to provide for the implementation of federal law; and to provide a penalty for the violation of this act,"
by amending section 3 (MCL 551.103), as amended by 2023 PA 121.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 3. (1) An individual who is 18 years of age or older may
2 contract marriage. As proof of age, the individual who intends to
3 be married, in addition to the statement of age in the application,
4 when requested by the county clerk, must submit a birth certificate
5 or other proof of age. The county clerk on the application
6 submitted shall fill out the blank spaces of the **marriage** license
7 according to the sworn answers of the applicant, taken before the



1 county clerk, or some person duly authorized by law to administer
2 oaths. The county clerk shall not issue a license until the
3 requirements of this section are complied with. If the parties are
4 legally entitled to be married, the county clerk must sign the
5 license and certify the fact that it is properly issued, and the
6 clerk must make a correct copy of the license in the books of
7 registration.

8 (2) ~~A~~ **The individual applying for the marriage license must**
9 **pay a** fee of ~~\$20.00~~ ~~must be paid by the individual applying for the~~
10 ~~license and must be paid by the~~ **\$50.00. The** county clerk **must**
11 **deposit the collected fee** into the general fund of the county. The
12 county board of commissioners must allocate \$15.00 of each fee
13 collected to the circuit court for family counseling services that
14 must include counseling for domestic violence and child abuse. If
15 family counseling services are not established in the county, the
16 circuit court may use the money allocated to contract with public
17 or private agencies providing similar services. Money allocated to
18 the circuit court under this section that is not expended must be
19 returned to the general fund of the county to be held in escrow
20 until circuit court family counseling services are established
21 under the circuit court family counseling services act, 1964 PA
22 155, MCL 551.331 to 551.344. A probate court may order the county
23 clerk to waive the marriage license fee in cases in which the fee
24 would result in undue hardship. If both ~~parties~~ **individuals** named
25 in the application are nonresidents of ~~the~~ **this** state, the
26 individual applying for the **marriage** license must pay an additional
27 fee of ~~\$10.00~~ **\$25.00** that the county clerk must deposit into the
28 general fund of the county. The county clerk must give the **marriage**
29 license filled out and signed, together with the blank form of



1 certificate, to the individual applying **for the marriage license**,
2 for delivery to the individual who is ~~to officiate at~~ **officiating**
3 the marriage. On the return of the **marriage** license to the county
4 clerk, containing the signatures of the witnesses to the marriage,
5 who must be 18 years of age or older, the individuals being
6 married, and the individual officiating at the marriage, with the
7 certificate of the individual officiating at the marriage that the
8 marriage has been performed, the county clerk must record in the
9 book of registration in the proper place of entry the information
10 prescribed by the director of the department of health and human
11 services. The **marriage** licenses and certificates issued and
12 returned must be forwarded to the state registrar appointed by the
13 director of the department of health and human services on the
14 forms and in the manner prescribed by the director.

15 (3) A charter county that has a population of over 1,500,000
16 may impose by ordinance a marriage license fee or nonresident
17 marriage license fee, or both, different in amount than the fee
18 prescribed by subsection (2). The charter county must allocate the
19 fee for family counseling services as prescribed by subsection (2).
20 A charter county must not impose a fee that is greater than the
21 cost of the service for which the fee is charged.

