

HOUSE BILL 939

J1

(6lr3467)

ENROLLED BILL

— Health/Finance —

Introduced by ~~Delegate Rosenberg~~ Delegates Rosenberg, Alston, Bagnall, Cullison, Guzzone, Hill, Hutchinson, S. Johnson, Kaufman, Kipke, Lopez, Martinez, M. Morgan, Reilly, Ross, Szeliga, Taveras, White Holland, and Worman

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this _____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

Speaker.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Certificates of Birth – Filing – Time Period**

3 FOR the purpose of altering, under certain circumstances, the period of time within which
4 a certificate of birth is to be completed and filed with the Maryland Department of
5 Health following a birth; and generally relating to certificates of birth.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article – Health – General
8 Section 4–208(b)(1) and (2), (c)(1), and (d)
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

11 BY adding to

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.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 Article – Health – General
 2 Section 4–208(g)
 3 Annotated Code of Maryland
 4 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

7 **Article – Health – General**

8 4–208.

9 (b) (1) ~~Within~~ **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (G) OF THIS**
 10 **SECTION, WITHIN [5] 12** calendar days after a birth occurs in an institution, or en route
 11 to the institution, or outside an institution with an attending clinician, the administrative
 12 head of the institution or a designee of the administrative head, or the attending clinician
 13 or a designee of the attending clinician, shall:

- 14 (i) Prepare, on the form that the Secretary provides, a certificate of
 15 birth;
- 16 (ii) Secure each signature that is required on the certificate;
- 17 (iii) File the certificate; and
- 18 (iv) If applicable, attach a copy of the order of the court establishing
 19 parentage.

20 (2) ~~The~~ **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (G) OF THIS SECTION,**
 21 **THE** attending physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner, nurse midwife, or
 22 attending clinician shall provide the date of birth and medical information that are required
 23 on the certificate within ~~[5] 12~~ calendar days after the birth.

24 (c) (1) ~~Within~~ **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (G) OF THIS**
 25 **SECTION, WITHIN [5] 12** calendar days after a birth occurs outside an institution without
 26 an attending clinician, the birth shall be verified by the Secretary and a certificate of birth
 27 shall be prepared, on the form that the Secretary provides, and filed by one of the following,
 28 in the indicated order of priority:

- 29 (i) The attending individual.
- 30 (ii) In the absence of an attending individual, either parent of the
 31 child.
- 32 (iii) In the absence or inability of either parent, the individual in
 33 charge of the premises where the birth occurred.

1 (d) (1) When a birth occurs on a common carrier within the United States and
2 the child is first removed from the carrier in this State, the birth shall be registered in this
3 State, and the place where the child is first removed shall be considered the place of birth.

4 (2) When a birth occurs on a common carrier while in international waters,
5 air space, or in a foreign country and the child is first removed from the carrier in this
6 State, the birth shall be registered in this State but the certificate shall show the actual
7 place of birth insofar as can be determined.

8 (3) ~~The~~ **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (G) OF THIS SECTION,**
9 **THE** certificate shall be filed within ~~5~~ **12** calendar days after the child is removed from
10 the carrier.

11 **(G) A CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH MAY BE FILED WITHIN 10 DAYS AFTER THE**
12 **BIRTH OCCURRED IF A PARENT OF THE CHILD NOTIFIES THE ~~DIVISION OF VITAL~~**
13 **~~RECORDS IN A MANNER REQUIRED~~ PERSON REQUIRED TO FILE THE CERTIFICATE OF**
14 **~~BIRTH ON A FORM PROVIDED BY THE SECRETARY AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE AFTER~~**
15 **BIRTH, BUT NOT LATER THAN 5 DAYS AFTER THE BIRTH OCCURS.**

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
17 October 1, 2026.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.