

mediate preservation of the public health and safety, and having been passed by a ye and nay vote, supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, the same shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved May 7, 1943.

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## CHAPTER 976.

(House Bill 452)

AN ACT to add a new section to Article 62 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Marriages", said new section to be known as Section 5A and to follow immediately after Section 5 of said Article providing certain requirements as to applications for licenses to marry and the issuance of such licenses and providing penalties for the violation thereof.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That a new section be and it is hereby added to Article 62 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Marriages", said new section to be known as Section 5A, to follow immediately after Section 5 of said Article and to read as follows:

5A. Applications for license to marry may only be made, accepted or received at the offices of Clerks of the Courts aforesaid and only during regular office hours. Licenses to marry may only be issued at said offices and only during said hours and may be delivered to either of the contracting parties to the marriage and to no other person. It shall be unlawful for the Clerks of any of the Courts aforesaid to pre-date any application for license to marry and in case application has been made for a waiver of the forty-eight (48) hour requirement in the manner provided in Section 5, it shall be unlawful for any of the Clerks aforesaid to issue or deliver any license to marry until the order authorizing the Clerk to deliver such license has been signed by the judge. Any of the foregoing provisions of this section may be waived by the Clerks of the Courts aforesaid wherever one of the contracting parties for whom a marriage license is sought is on active duty as a member of the armed forces of the United States and requests such waiver. No such waiver shall be granted, however, until the Clerks of the Courts aforesaid have required the party applying for such waiver, to exhibit his or her credentials and