

make indices to such certificates. It shall prepare the necessary methods, books and forms for accurate registration of vital statistics, and shall supply county health officers, local registrars, deputy local registrars, physicians, midwives, funeral directors, ministers, clerks of court, and other persons charged with any duty under this sub-title, with the required forms. The said Board shall prepare annually or more often reports of vital statistics including population estimates, and shall have such reports printed and distributed to officials, departments, libraries, and persons whom it may deem entitled thereto.

(b) The State Board of Health is authorized to make rules and regulations as it may deem necessary to govern the registration of births, stillbirths, deaths, marriages and divorces.

(c) The State Board of Health is authorized to delegate to the Commissioner of Health of Baltimore City, its responsibility for the collection, binding, preservation and indexing of records of births and deaths occurring within Baltimore City, according to rules and regulations prescribed by the State Board of Health.

(d) (1) The State Board of Health shall collect and safeguard duplicate permanent records of marriage performed in the State of Maryland, as provided in Section 18 of Article 62 of the Annotated Code (1947 Supplement, as amended), for the purpose of ensuring against loss or destruction of the records maintained in the several courts and for the purpose of providing certified copies of records for marriages performed after June 1, 1951. Said Board shall also receive from the clerks of the appropriate courts of Baltimore City and of the several counties of the State of Maryland reports of divorces and annulments of marriage, as provided in said Section 18 of Article 62. Provided, however, that nothing in this sub-section shall be construed as giving said Board authority to make certifications as to divorces and annulments of marriage; and provided further, that nothing in this sub-section shall limit the authority of the clerks of the appropriate courts of Baltimore City and of the several counties of the State of Maryland to furnish certifications of marriages, divorces and annulments of marriage in accordance with their usual custom and as authorized by law.

(2) The State Board of Health shall make changes in the marriage and divorce and annulment records in its file only upon certification by the responsible Clerk of the Court of Baltimore City or of one of the several counties of the State of Maryland, as provided in said Section 18 of Article 62, that the proposed change is correct and that the corresponding record of the Clerk of the Court is being changed in like man-