SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1981.

Approved May 19, 1981.

CHAPTER 746

(House Bill 60)

AN ACT concerning

Divorce - Statement of Change of Name in Divorce Decree

FOR the purpose of requiring an equity court, under certain circumstances, to state in a final divorce decree a previous name of a party desiring to discontinue using the name assumed on marriage; and clarifying language.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 16 - Chancery Section 32 Annotated Code of Maryland (1973 Replacement Volume and 1980 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Article 16 - Chancery

32.

[Whenever] WHEN the court [shall grant] GRANTS a decree of final divorce, [the decree may include a restoration of the woman's former name.] THE COURT, ON THE REQUEST OF A PARTY WHO ASSUMED A NEW NAME ON MARRIAGE AND DESIRES TO DISCONTINUE USING IT, AND IN THE ABSENCE OF AN ILLEGAL, FRAUDULENT, OR IMMORAL INTENT BY THE PARTY, SHALL STATE IN THE DECREE OF DIVORCE EITHER THE BIRTH GIVEN NAME OR OTHER PREVIOUS NAME THAT THE PERSON DESIRES TO USE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1981.

Approved May 19, 1981.