

(House Bill 448)

AN ACT concerning

Birth Certificates - Change of Name

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to change the name on a birth certificate once, without a court order, within the first 6 months of birth under certain conditions.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General
Section 4-214(c)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(As enacted by Chapter _____ (H.B. 200) of the
Acts of the General Assembly of 1982)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland (as enacted by Chapter _____ (H.B. 200) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1982) read(s) as follows:

Article - Health - General

4-214.

(c) On receipt of a court order that changes the name of an individual who was born in this State and on request of the individual or a parent, guardian, or legal representative of the individual, the Secretary shall amend the certificate of the birth to reflect the new name[.], HOWEVER, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE MAY CHANGE THE NAME ON A BIRTH CERTIFICATE ONCE WITHOUT A COURT ORDER IF, WITHIN 6 MONTHS OF THE BIRTH, THE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES:

(1) A WRITTEN REQUEST FROM BOTH PARENTS REQUESTING THE CHANGE OF NAME; AND

(2) AN AFFIDAVIT FROM BOTH PARENTS SWORN BEFORE A NOTARY PUBLIC OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND STATING THAT THEY ARE THE TRUE PARENTS OF THE CHILD AND ARE MAKING THIS REQUEST OF THEIR OWN FREE WILL; OR

~~(3) -- A -- WRITTEN STATEMENT FROM THE PARENT WHO HAS CUSTODY OF THE CHILD REQUESTING THE CHANGE OF NAME; AND~~

~~(4) -- AN AFFIDAVIT FROM THAT PARENT SWORN BEFORE A NOTARY PUBLIC OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND -- STATING -- THAT -- THE PARENT --~~

~~(1) -- IS THE TRUE PARENT OF THE CHILD;~~