

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2001 and shall be applicable to all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2000.

Approved May 18, 2001.

**CHAPTER 635**

**(House Bill 20)**

AN ACT concerning

**Family Law - Marriage License Fee - Premarital Preparation Course**

FOR the purpose of authorizing a county to discount a marriage license fee, if the couple to be married has completed a premarital preparation course under certain circumstances; specifying the requirements for a premarital preparation course; authorizing certain providers to conduct a premarital preparation course; authorizing the clerk of the court to establish a roster of premarital preparation course providers; requiring any cost for a premarital preparation course to be paid by a certain individual; requiring a premarital preparation course provider to provide a certain certificate of completion to each couple who completes the course; requiring a premarital preparation course provider to register with the clerk by filing a certain affidavit; requiring an applicant for a license to file a certain certificate to receive a discounted marriage license fee; prohibiting the discount from being applied to any fee used to fund domestic violence programs; and generally relating to marriage license fees and premarital preparation courses.

BY adding to

Article - Family Law

Section 2-404.1

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

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

**Article - Family Law**

2-404.1.

(A) (1) A COUNTY MAY DISCOUNT A MARRIAGE LICENSE FEE UNDER § 2-404(A) OF THIS SUBTITLE IF THE COUPLE TO BE MARRIED HAS COMPLETED, WITHIN 1 YEAR BEFORE THE DATE OF THE APPLICATION FOR THE LICENSE, A PREMARITAL PREPARATION COURSE THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN THIS SECTION.