



S.F. No. 1409 – Civil marriage

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Section 1. [144.223; Report of marriage] This section removes the requirement that the local registrar report specific personal information relating to marriage certificates to the state registrar. Instead, the local registrar must report only the number of certificates of marriage registered in a format and with the frequency determined by the state registrar.

Section 2. [517.04; Persons authorized to perform civil marriages] A 2023 law authorized any person who registered as a civil marriage officiant with a local registrar in a county of this state to perform a civil marriage. This section removes all other individuals who are currently authorized to perform civil marriages, including judges and licensed or ordained ministers of any religious denominations.

Section 3. [517.08, subd. 1a; Form] This section no longer requires parties applying for a marriage license to provide the sex of each party but requires the parties to provide their dates of birth. This section also clarifies that a party who was previously married is only required to provide their name from their most recent marriage.

Section 4. [517.08, subd. 1b; Term of license; fee] A 2020 law¹ temporarily permitted local registrars to examine parties upon oath remotely or accept verified statements and accept civil marriage license applications by mail, facsimile, or electronic filing. This section codifies that prior practice permanently. This section also removes an authorization to pay a reduced civil marriage license fee upon completion of premarital education.

Section 5. [517.08, subd. 1c; Disposition of license fee] This section increases the amount of the civil marriage license fee retained by counties from \$25 to \$55 and reduces the amount that must be paid to the commissioner of management and budget from \$90 to \$60. Of the amount paid to the commissioner, the amount placed in the general fund is reduced from \$55 to \$25. This section makes conforming changes related to the removal of the reduced civil marriage license fee for those who complete premarital education.

Section 6. [517.09, subd. 1; General] This section makes clarifying and conforming changes.

¹ [Laws 2020, chapter 74, article 1, section 18.](#)

Section 7. [517.10; Certificate; witnesses] This section makes clarifying changes.

Section 8. [517.102; Fees for marriage records] This section provides that the fee for a copy of a marriage record or a letter of no record is \$20 and is retained by the local registrar issuing the record. The fee for amending a marriage record is \$40, except that if the local registrar makes an error in the marriage record, the local registrar must amend the record at no cost to the applicant.

Section 9 [517.103; Amendment of marriage records] This section permits a person to request an amendment of an error in a marriage record directly with the local registrar by providing an affidavit and supporting documentation.

Section 10 [Repealer] This section repeals section 517.05 (credentials of minister) and section 517.18 (civil marriage solemnization).



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