

# SENATE BILL NO. 1044

October 23, 2024, Introduced by Senator KLINEFELT and referred to the Committee on Local Government.

A bill to amend 1846 RS 83, entitled  
"Of marriage and the solemnization thereof,"  
by amending section 7 (MCL 551.7), as amended by 2014 PA 278.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1           Sec. 7. (1) ~~Marriages~~ **A marriage** may be solemnized by any of  
2 the following:

3           (a) A **district court** judge, ~~of the district court,~~ anywhere in  
4 this state.

5           (b) A district court magistrate, anywhere in this state.

6           (c) A municipal judge, in the city in which the judge is

1 serving or in a township over which a municipal court has  
2 jurisdiction under section 9928 of the revised judicature act of  
3 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.9928.

4 (d) A **probate** judge, ~~of probate,~~ anywhere in this state.

5 (e) A judge of a federal court.

6 (f) A mayor of a city, anywhere in a county in which that city  
7 is located.

8 (g) A county clerk in the county in which the clerk serves, or  
9 in another county with the written authorization of the clerk of  
10 the other county.

11 (h) For a county ~~having~~ **with a population of** more than  
12 1,500,000, ~~inhabitants,~~ an employee of the county clerk's office  
13 designated by the county clerk, in the county in which the clerk  
14 serves.

15 (i) A minister of the gospel or cleric or religious  
16 practitioner, anywhere in this state, if the minister or cleric or  
17 religious practitioner is ordained or authorized to solemnize  
18 marriages according to the usages of the denomination.

19 (j) A minister of the gospel or cleric or religious  
20 practitioner, anywhere in this state, if the minister or cleric or  
21 religious practitioner is not a resident of this state but is  
22 authorized to solemnize marriages under the laws of the state in  
23 which the minister or cleric or religious practitioner resides.

24 **(k) A civil celebrant.**

25 (2) ~~A person~~ **An individual** authorized by this act to solemnize  
26 a marriage shall keep proper records and return licenses and  
27 certificates as required by section 4 of 1887 PA 128, MCL 551.104.

28 (3) If a mayor of a city solemnizes a marriage, the mayor  
29 shall charge and collect a fee to be determined by the council of

1 that city ~~, which shall~~ **that must** be paid to the city treasurer and  
2 deposited in the general fund of the city at the end of the month.

3 (4) If the county clerk or, in a county ~~having~~ **with a**  
4 **population of** more than 1,500,000, ~~inhabitants,~~ an employee of the  
5 **county** clerk's office designated by the county clerk solemnizes a  
6 marriage, the county clerk shall charge and collect a fee to be  
7 determined by the commissioners of the county in which the clerk  
8 serves. The fee ~~shall~~ **must** be paid to the treasurer for the county  
9 in which the clerk serves and deposited in the general fund of that  
10 county at the end of the month.

11 (5) **As used in this section, "civil celebrant" means an**  
12 **individual to whom both of the following apply:**

13 (a) **The individual is at least 18 years of age.**

14 (b) **The individual works in accordance with the wishes of the**  
15 **client couple.**

16 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect  
17 unless Senate Bill No. 1045 of the 102nd Legislature is enacted  
18 into law.