

HOUSE BILL NO. 4616

June 10, 2025, Introduced by Reps. Pohutsky, Hoskins, Rheingans, Brixie, McFall, Mentzer, Wooden, Dievendorf, Miller, Byrnes, Price, Rogers, Tsernoglou, Coffia, Skaggs, Weiss, Glanville, Conlin, Longjohn, MacDonell, Hope, Wilson, Scott, Morgan and Wegela and referred to Committee on Government Operations.

A bill to amend 1846 RS 83, entitled
"Of marriage and the solemnization thereof,"
by amending sections 2, 3, and 9 (MCL 551.2, 551.3, and 551.9),
sections 2 and 3 as amended by 1996 PA 324; and to repeal acts and
parts of acts.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 2. So far as its validity in law is concerned, marriage
2 is a civil contract between ~~a man and a woman~~, **2 parties**, to which
3 the consent of parties capable in law of contracting is essential.

1 Consent alone is not enough to effectuate a legal marriage on and
 2 after January 1, 1957. Consent ~~shall~~**must** be followed by obtaining
 3 a license as required by section 1 of ~~Act No. 128 of the Public~~
 4 ~~Acts of 1887, being section 551.101 of the Michigan Compiled Laws,~~
 5 **1887 PA 128, MCL 551.101**, or as provided for by section 1 of ~~Act~~
 6 ~~No. 180 of the Public Acts of 1897, being section 551.201 of the~~
 7 ~~Michigan Compiled Laws,~~**1897 PA 180, MCL 551.201**, and solemnization
 8 as authorized by sections 7 to 18. ~~of this chapter.~~

9 Sec. 3. ~~A man shall not marry his mother, sister, grandmother,~~
 10 ~~daughter, granddaughter, stepmother, grandfather's wife, son's~~
 11 ~~wife, grandson's wife, wife's mother, wife's grandmother, wife's~~
 12 ~~daughter, wife's granddaughter, brother's daughter, sister's~~
 13 ~~daughter, father's sister, mother's sister, or cousin of the first~~
 14 ~~degree, or another man.~~**An individual shall not marry the**
 15 **individual's parent, sibling, grandparent, child, grandchild,**
 16 **stepparent, grandparent's spouse, child's spouse, grandchild's**
 17 **spouse, spouse's parent, spouse's grandparent, spouse's child,**
 18 **spouse's grandchild, sibling's child, parent's sibling, or cousin**
 19 **of the first degree.**

20 Sec. 9. In the solemnization of marriage, no particular form
 21 ~~shall be~~**is** required, except that the parties ~~shall~~**must** solemnly
 22 declare, in the presence of the person solemnizing the marriage and
 23 the attending witnesses, that they take each other as ~~husband and~~
 24 ~~wife,~~**spouses**; and in every case, there ~~shall~~**must** be at least 2
 25 witnesses, besides the person solemnizing the marriage, present at
 26 the ceremony.

27 Enacting section 1. Sections 1 and 4 of 1846 RS 83, MCL 551.1
 28 and 551.4, are repealed.

29 Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect

1 unless Senate Joint Resolution ____ (request no. S00781'25) or
2 House Joint Resolution F (request no. H00781'25) of the 103rd
3 Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as
4 provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of
5 1963.