FINAL BILL REPORT HB 1455

C 10 L 24

Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Eliminating child marriage.

Sponsors: Representatives Stonier, Berry, Farivar, Rude, Fey, Reed, Morgan, Thai, Fosse, Pollet, Macri and Bateman.

House Committee on Civil Rights & Judiciary Senate Committee on Law & Justice

Background:

Marriage is a civil contract between two persons who have each attained the age of 18 years and who are otherwise capable.

Before issuing a marriage license, the county auditor must require each applicant to file an affidavit showing that the applicants are at least 18 years of age. A marriage license may be granted to a 17-year-old applicant with the written consent from the applicant's parent or legal guardian.

A marriage entered into in which either party was incapable of consent because the party has not attained legal age is voidable by the underage party. A marriage entered into in which either person has not attained the age of 17 years is void, except where the age requirement has been waived by a superior court judge based on a showing of necessity.

Summary:

A marriage entered into in which either person has not attained the age of 18 years is void. The minimum age requirement applies to marriages entered into on or after the effective date of the act.

Provisions authorizing a superior court judge to waive the age requirement and the county auditor to issue marriage licenses to 17-year-old applicants are removed.

House Bill Report - 1 - HB 1455

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Votes on Final Passage:

House 95 0 House 98 0 Senate 48 1

Effective: June 6, 2024