

**County Council's Proposals for Legislation
Frederick County's 2023
General Assembly Legislative Package**

Frederick County Council

Legislative Consideration: 23-01



Sponsor: Council Member Jessica Fitzwater

Issue: Should the Council support an increase in the Marriage Surcharge License Fee for Frederick County in order to fund domestic violence programs?

Current Law with planned amendments:

Md Code, Article Family Law Title 2, Marriage, Subtitle 4, Licenses Fees, Section 2-404

- (a) (1) The fee for a license is \$10.
- (2) The clerk shall:
 - (i) retain \$5 of the fee; and
 - (ii) pay \$5 of the fee into the general fund of the county.
- (3) (i) A party to be married may obtain a replacement for a valid marriage license while the license is valid.
 - (ii) The fee for a replacement license is \$10, payable into the General Fund of the State.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this section:

- (1) any county or group of 2 or more counties may set an additional fee of up to \$25 for each license; and
- (2) the proceeds shall be used to fund domestic violence programs.

(i) In Frederick County:

- (1) the ~~Board of County Commissioners~~ **COUNTY COUNCIL** may set an additional fee, in an amount not to exceed \$[65] **75**, for each license;
- (2) the clerk shall pay the proceeds from the additional fee to the County ~~Commissioners~~ each month; and
- (3) the proceeds, in addition to designated Federal, State, and County funds, shall be used to fund domestic violence programs established under Title 4, Subtitle 5 of this article.

Legislative Request: To include in the Frederick County Legislative Package for consideration by the Frederick County Delegation in the 2023 Session of the Maryland General Assembly for an increase to the Marriage Surcharge License Fee for Frederick County.