

1 AN ACT concerning civil law.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Marriage and Dissolution of
5 Marriage Act is amended by adding Section 221 as follows:

6 (750 ILCS 5/221 new)

7 Sec. 221. Request for changing or removing gender
8 identifying language on a marriage certificate.

9 (a) Upon completion of an affidavit provided by the county
10 clerk and confirmation of identity, a person, still currently
11 married, may request a certificate of the person's current
12 marriage free of any gender identifying language. The person
13 may request a change from terms such as "bride" and "groom" to
14 a nongendered term such as "spouse" or a variant of "Spouse 1"
15 or "Spouse A". Upon such request, both parties shall be listed
16 with a nongendered identifier on a certificate. The request
17 shall not permanently change the gender identifying language
18 in the clerk's records, and the affidavit and issuance shall
19 be kept in the permanent records of the clerk.

20 The affidavit shall be created by the county clerk, may
21 appear on a combined form with the form under subsection (b),
22 and shall be substantially as follows:

23 REQUEST FOR NONGENDERED COPY OF A MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE

1 I,, state that I am a named spouse on a
 2 marriage license held in this office, that I am still
 3 married to the other named spouse on that marriage license
 4 as of the date of this request, and hereby request the
 5 holder of this record provide me, and only me, with a
 6 marriage certificate with any gender-identifying language
 7 removed or changed to "spouse". I affirm that this change
 8 is for purposes of this certified copy, the change will
 9 not be made to permanent records, and a record of this
 10 request shall be held by the holder of this marriage
 11 record.

12 Date.....

13 Signature.....

14 (b) If 2 parties currently married request a marriage
 15 certificate with gender identifiers changed, such as "bride"
 16 to "groom" or "groom" to "bride", both parties shall appear
 17 before the clerk, indicate consent, and complete an affidavit.
 18 If the clerk is technologically able and the parties desire,
 19 the change in gender is permanent.

20 The affidavit shall be created by the county clerk, may
 21 appear on a combined form with the form under subsection (a),
 22 and shall be substantially as follows:

23 REQUEST FOR NONGENDERED COPY OF A MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE

24 We,[Spouse A] and[Spouse B], the
 25 still-married named persons on a marriage license held in
 26 this office as of the date of this request, hereby request

1 the holder of this record to provide a marriage
2 certificate with gender-identifying terms such as "bride"
3 and "groom" changed as follows:

4[Name of Spouse A] Bride, Groom, or Spouse
5 (select one).

6[Name of Spouse B] Bride, Groom, or Spouse
7 (select one).

8 We affirm that this change is for purposes of this
9 certified copy, and the change will not be made to
10 permanent records, unless indicated by selecting Yes or No
11 (select one) and a record of this request shall be held by
12 the holder of this marriage record.

13 Date.....

14 Signature of Spouse A.....

15 Signature of Spouse B.....

16 (c) If a county provides a certified record, photocopy, or
17 reproduction of an original record in lieu of a summary data
18 sheet, the county clerk shall work with the Department of
19 Public Health to develop a new certificate that can be issued
20 in lieu of a reproduction of the prior record. Nothing in this
21 subsection authorizes the county clerk to permanently mark or
22 deface a prior record in lieu of a summary data sheet
23 certificate.

24 (d) When a clerk issues a nongendered marriage certificate
25 under subsection (a), the certificate shall not include any
26 language indicating it has been amended nor that it is not a

1 true and accurate record of the facts stated therein.