

## CHAPTER 88

AN ACT concerning marriage licenses and amending R.S.26:8-27, R.S.26:8-47 and R.S.37:1-17.

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. R.S.26:8-27 is amended to read as follows:

Inquiries to applicants for marriage license.

26:8-27. The department shall issue to each local registrar and to city clerks of cities of the first class, the form and substance of the several inquiries to be made of applicants for a marriage license and their witnesses for the purpose of ascertaining whether any legal impediment to any proposed marriage exists.

The form shall not contain any inquiries or information which concerns the race of an applicant for a marriage license.

2. R.S.26:8-47 is amended to read as follows:

Preparation of forms for marriage licenses, certificates.

26:8-47. The department shall cause to be prepared blank forms of certificates of marriages and marriage licenses corresponding to the requirements of R.S.37:1-7 and R.S.37:1-17. The forms, together with such sections of the laws concerning marriages and such instructions and explanations thereof as the department may deem useful to persons having duties to perform under such laws shall be printed and supplied upon request therefor to the local registrars and to the city clerks of cities of the first class.

All certificates of marriages and marriage licenses shall be written upon the said blanks or blanks approved by the department and shall not contain any inquiries or information which concerns the race of an applicant for a marriage license.

3. R.S.37:1-17 is amended to read as follows:

Marriage license; information provided.

37:1-17. On the marriage license shall be the form for the certificate of marriage in quadruplicate, to which the licensing officer shall have set forth particularly therein the name, age, parentage, birthplace, residence, Social Security number and condition (whether single, widowed or divorced) of each of the married persons, and the names and county of birth of their parents. The Social Security number shall be kept confidential and may only be released for child support enforcement purposes, and shall not be considered a public record pursuant to P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.). The person by whom or the religious society, institution, or organization by or before which, the marriage was solemnized, shall personally or by legally authorized agent subscribe where indicated on the form the date and place of the marriage. Each certificate of marriage shall also contain the signature and residence of at least two witnesses who were present at the marriage ceremony.

4. This act shall take effect 90 days following enactment.

Approved October 24, 2002.