

Chapter 608

(House Bill 661)

AN ACT concerning

Health – Statistics and Records – Electronic Filing of Death Certificates

FOR the purpose of requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, on or before a certain date, to establish a process by which ~~death and fetal~~ death certificates can be filed electronically and to educate physicians, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners regarding the process; and generally relating to the filing of death certificates.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 Article – Health – General
 Section 4–203
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Health – General

4–203.

(a) The Secretary is charged with administering efficiently and uniformly this subtitle throughout this State.

(b) (1) The Secretary shall [establish]:

(I) **ESTABLISH** appropriate methods and the necessary forms for accurate registration of vital records;

(II) **ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2015, ESTABLISH A PROCESS BY WHICH ~~DEATH AND FETAL~~ DEATH CERTIFICATES CAN BE FILED ELECTRONICALLY; AND**

(III) **EDUCATE PHYSICIANS, PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS, AND NURSE PRACTITIONERS REGARDING THE PROCESS BY WHICH ~~DEATH AND FETAL~~ DEATH CERTIFICATES CAN BE FILED ELECTRONICALLY.**

(2) The forms shall provide for the information that the Secretary needs for proper registration and use of these vital records.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2014.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2014.