

## Chapter 4

**(Senate Bill 61)**

AN ACT concerning

**Active Armed Forces Member – Exemption From Payment of Fees for Certain Court Records**

FOR the purpose of requiring a clerk of a court to provide without charge a copy of certain papers or records requested by an active armed forces member or the United States government; requiring a clerk of a court to provide without charge a copy of certain marriage records that are requested under certain circumstances; and generally relating to certain court papers and records.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
Section 7–406  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2013 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

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

**Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

7–406.

- (a) In this section, “armed forces” means the armed forces of the United States.
- (b) A clerk of court shall provide without charge:

(1) A copy of any paper or record in the clerk’s office that is requested by a former **OR ACTIVE** armed forces member, in person, or by the United States government, if the copy is to be used in connection with a claim of the member against the United States government;

(2) A copy of a marriage record of a former **OR ACTIVE** armed forces member that is requested by the member; and

(3) A copy of a marriage record of a former **OR ACTIVE** armed forces member or of a surviving spouse or child of the member that is requested, if the copy is to be used in connection with a claim for a dependent or beneficiary of the member.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2015.

**Approved by the Governor, April 14, 2015.**