

said James R. Manning and as to the estate of the said Miriam S. D. Manning to which he would be entitled, and subject to all the obligations which would rest upon him, if he were a natural child born of the said James R. Manning and Miriam S. D. Manning, his wife, in lawful wedlock.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1937.

Approved May 18, 1937.

CHAPTER 49.

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact with amendments Sections 19 and 24 of Article 43 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1924 Edition), title "Health", sub-title "Vital Statistics", relating to the facts required to be given for the records and certificates of birth and to change the method of recording still-birth and to provide for the execution of new certificates of birth under certain conditions and for the substitution of such new certificates for the original certificates of birth then on file and for the sealing of said original certificates and for notification of decrees of adoption or modification thereof or adjudication of paternity.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Sections 19 and 24 of Article 43 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1924 Edition), title "Health", sub-title "Vital Statistics", be and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments to read as follows:

19. The record of a birth of any child born living shall state the date and place of its occurrence, name in full, sex and color, and the number of the child, whether a twin, triplet or other plural birth and the name, color, occupation, birthplace and residence of parents. A separate certificate shall be required for each child in case of plural birth. The certificate of birth shall contain the items specified in this section and such other items as the State registrar of vital statistics may deem important or necessary subject to the approval of the State Board of Health. The record of a death shall state the date and place of its occurrence, name, age, sex, color, occupation, condition, birthplace, cause of death, duration of illness, and names, residences, birthplace of parents, name and address of attending physician and such other items of information as the State registrar of vital statistics shall deem important or necessary subject

to the approval of the State Board of Health. All such records shall be made upon forms prepared and printed by the State registrar of vital statistics and distributed by him for this purpose. All records of birth or death shall be plainly written in unfading ink and shall be signed by the person required to make the record in his own hand writing. And no certificate shall be held to be complete or correct that does not supply all of the items of information called for under the provisions of this section so far as it is possible to obtain the same. And if such items cannot be obtained by proper and diligent inquiry and search the word "unknown" shall be entered after each item so described.

Still-born children, or those dead at birth, shall be registered upon forms furnished by the State Registrar, and in such manner as may be prescribed by the State Board of Health. The medical certificate of the cause of death shall be signed by the attending physician, if any, and shall state the cause of death as "still-born" with the cause of the still-birth if known, whether a premature birth, and if born prematurely, the period of uterine gestation, in months, if known; and a burial or removal permit in the usual form shall be required. Midwives shall not sign certificates of death for still-born children; but in such cases and in the case of still-births occurring without attendance of either physician or midwife, such still-births shall be treated as deaths without medical attendance as hereinafter provided.

24. In the event of the birth of any child without the attendance of either a physician or midwife it shall be the duty of the father, coroner, householder, keeper of any workhouse, house of correction, prison, hospital, reformatory, almshouse, or other institution, master or other commanding officer of a ship or vessel and the conductor of any railroad train to report in writing, within four days next succeeding the birth, to the local registrar or deputy local registrar of the registration district wherein such birth occurs, the full name of the mother, the full name of the father, if it can be ascertained, date, hour, and place of birth, and the sex and color of the child, and it shall be the duty of the local registrar or deputy local registrar to whom such report is presented to immediately investigate the same and to execute and send a proper and correct certificate of birth as provided by Section 19 of this Article.

And all physicians, midwives, informants or undertakers, and all other persons having knowledge of the facts, are hereby required to furnish such information as they may possess regarding any birth or death upon demand of the State Regis-

trar, in person, or by representative, by mail or through the local registrar.

In the event of an alteration of any certificate of birth or death the facts shall be properly certified to the State Registrar and entered in red ink over his signature.

A new certificate of birth shall be made whenever the State Registrar receives proof satisfactory to him:

(a) That the previously unwed parents of a person have inter-married subsequently to the birth of such person; or

(b) That a court of competent jurisdiction has entered a judgment order or decree relating to the parentage or adoption of a person.

Such new certificate for any person shall be in the form prescribed by the State Registrar, subject to approval of the State Board of Health, and shall be prepared on the following basis: Such person shall be treated as having had at birth the status subsequently acquired or established and of which proof is submitted; where such person is illegitimate and paternity has been established by legal proceedings the name of such father shall be inserted; where such person has been adopted the name of such child shall be that fixed by the decree of adoption and the foster parents shall be recorded as the parents of such child.

When a new certificate of birth is made, the State Registrar shall substitute such new certificate of birth then on file, if any. The State Registrar shall place the original certificate of birth and all papers pertaining to the new certificate of birth under seal. Such seals shall not be broken except by order of a court of competent jurisdiction or on written order of the State Registrar. Thereafter when a certified copy of the certificate of birth of such a person is issued, it shall be a copy of the new certificate of birth, except when an order of a court of competent jurisdiction shall require the issuance of a copy of the original certificate of birth.

It shall be the duty of the Clerks of the several equity courts of this State to transmit to the Bureau of Vital Statistics of the State Department of Health upon forms to be supplied by the said Bureau a report of each decree of adoption or adjudication of paternity and a report of the revocation of any such decree.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect on June 1, 1937.

Approved April 26, 1937.