

Subject Notary Publics; Civil Marriages

Authors Huot

Analyst Mary Davis

Date February 2, 2023

Overview

This bill allows notaries who are licensed in Minnesota to register to perform marriages and allows past and current elected officials in Minnesota to perform marriages. Currently in Minnesota judges and ordained ministers and religious officiants can perform marriages in Minnesota. Notaries are authorized to perform marriages in other states including: Florida, South Carolina, Maine, Montana, and Nevada.

Summary

Section	Description
1	Notaries public. Allows a notary to charge a larger fee than allowed to notarize a document to perform a wedding, which is capped at \$5 to perform notary services otherwise.
2	Powers. Provides that notaries have the power to perform a civil marriage, along with the other powers notaries are granted when they have a valid notary commission.
3	Civil marriage officiant. Authorizes a notary or past or present Minnesota elected official to solemnize a marriage if they have registered their notary commission or election certificate with the local registrar in a county and fulfills the technical filing requirements which mirror the requirements for a religious officiant.
4	Persons authorized to perform civil marriages. Adds notaries and elected officials to the list of individuals able to perform a civil marriage.



**MN HOUSE
RESEARCH**

Minnesota House Research Department provides nonpartisan legislative, legal, and information services to the Minnesota House of Representatives. This document can be made available in alternative formats.

www.house.mn/hrd | 651-296-6753 | 155 State Office Building | St. Paul, MN 55155