

SENATE BILL NO. 132
INTRODUCED BY S. GALLUS

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING AN EXEMPTION TO THE REQUIREMENT FOR A RUBELLA BLOOD TEST AS A CONDITION OF OBTAINING A MARRIAGE LICENSE; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 40-1-202, 40-1-203, 40-1-205, 40-1-206, AND 40-1-208, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 40-1-202, MCA, is amended to read:

"40-1-202. License issuance. When a marriage application has been completed and signed by both parties to a prospective marriage and at least one party has appeared before the clerk of the district court and paid the marriage license fee of \$53, the clerk of the district court shall issue a license to marry and a marriage certificate form upon being furnished:

(1) satisfactory proof that each party to the marriage will have attained the age of 18 years at the time the marriage license is effective or will have attained the age of 16 years and has obtained judicial approval as provided in 40-1-213;

(2) satisfactory proof that the marriage is not prohibited; and

(3) a certificate of the results of any medical examination required by the laws of this state or a statement indicating that the applicants waived the medical examination after being informed of the reasons for the examination and the potential risks of foregoing the examination."

Section 2. Section 40-1-203, MCA, is amended to read:

"40-1-203. Proof of age and medical certificate required -- medical certificate exemption. (1) Before a person authorized by law to issue marriage licenses may issue a marriage license, each applicant for a license shall provide a birth certificate or other satisfactory evidence of age and, if the applicant is a minor, the approval required by 40-1-213. Each female applicant, unless exempted on medical grounds by rule of the department of public health and human services or as provided in subsection (2), shall file with the license issuer a medical certificate from a physician who is licensed to practice medicine and surgery in any state or United States territory or from any other person authorized by rule of the department to issue a medical certificate. The certificate must state that the applicant has been given a ~~standard serological~~ blood test for rubella immunity, that the report of

the test results of the serological test has been shown to the applicant tested, and that the other party to the proposed marriage contract has examined the report of the serological test.

(2) In lieu of a medical certificate, applicants for a marriage license may file a waiver of the blood test for rubella immunity. The waiver must be signed by both parties to the marriage license application and must indicate that the female applicant is declining the rubella blood test after the applicants were informed by a physician or other person authorized by rule of the department of the following information:

- (a) the reasons for undergoing a blood test for rubella immunity;
- (b) the information that the results would provide about the woman's rubella antibody status; and
- (c) the risks associated with remaining uninformed of the rubella antibody status, including the potential risks posed to a fetus, particularly in the first trimester of pregnancy.

~~(2)~~(3) A person who by law is able to obtain a marriage license in this state is also able to give consent to any examinations, and tests, or waivers required or allowed by this section. In submitting the blood specimen to the laboratory, the physician or other person authorized to issue a medical certificate shall designate that it is a premarital test."

Section 3. Section 40-1-205, MCA, is amended to read:

"40-1-205. Certificates from other states or for military personnel -- when acceptable. Certificate forms provided by other states having comparable laws will be accepted for persons who have received a ~~standard serological~~ rubella blood test outside of Montana. Certificates provided by the United States armed forces will be accepted for military personnel if ~~such~~ the certificates are signed by a medical officer commissioned in the United States armed forces or United States public health service and the certificates state the examinations are ~~standard serological~~ rubella blood tests."

Section 4. Section 40-1-206, MCA, is amended to read:

"40-1-206. Premarital test -- approved laboratories -- rules. ~~(1) For the purpose of 40-1-203 through 40-1-209, a standard serological test is a test for rubella immunity that is approved by the department of public health and human services:~~

~~(2)~~(1) The ~~standard serological~~ rubella blood test is acceptable for the purposes of 40-1-203 through 40-1-209 only if it is approved by the department of public health and human services and performed by one of the following:

- (a) the laboratory of the department of public health and human services;

- (b) a laboratory approved by the department of public health and human services;
- (c) a laboratory operated by any other state; or
- (d) a laboratory operated by the United States public health service or the United States armed forces.

~~(3)(2)~~ The ~~standard serological~~ test may be made on request at the laboratory of the department of public health and human services.

~~(4)(3)~~ The department of public health and human services shall adopt reasonable rules for:

(a) reports to be submitted by any laboratory making tests and the manner of furnishing the reports to the certifying physician and the state; and

(b) exemptions, on medical grounds, from the premarital ~~serological~~ rubella blood test."

Section 5. Section 40-1-208, MCA, is amended to read:

"40-1-208. Penalties. (1) An applicant for a marriage license, a physician or other person authorized by rule of the department of public health and human services to issue a medical certificate, or a person in charge of or authorized to make reports or statements for a laboratory who misrepresents the person's identity or any of the facts called for by the certificate form prescribed by 40-1-203 through 40-1-205; a licensing officer who issues a marriage license without having received the certificate form, if required, or who has reason to believe that any of the facts on the certificate form have been misrepresented and nevertheless issues a marriage license; or any person who otherwise fails to comply with the provisions of 40-1-203 through 40-1-209 is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$100.

(2) Medical certificates, laboratory statements or reports, ~~and applications,~~ and waivers referred to in 40-1-203 through 40-1-209 are confidential and may not be divulged to or open to inspection by any person other than state or local health officers or their representatives. A person who divulges the information or opens to inspection the certificates, statements, reports, ~~or applications,~~ or waivers, without authority, to any person not entitled to the material by law is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$100."

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