

[b] (2) Rules and regulations. The State Board of Health *and Mental Hygiene* is authorized to make, *adopt and promulgate such* rules and regulations as it may deem necessary *from time to time* to govern the registration of births, **[stillbirths]** deaths, *fetal deaths*, marriages and divorces.

[c] (3) Delegation of duties to Commissioner of Health of Baltimore City. The State Board of Health *and Mental Hygiene* is authorized to delegate to the Commissioner of Health of Baltimore City its responsibility for the **[collection, binding, preservation]** *designing of birth, death and fetal death certificates and for the collecting, preserving* and indexing of records of birth **[s]**, **[and]** death **[s]** *and fetal deaths* occurring within Baltimore City, according to rules and regulations prescribed by the State Board of Health *and Mental Hygiene*.

[d] (4) Marriage, divorce and annulment records.

[1] (i) The State Board of Health *and Mental Hygiene* shall collect, *index* and safeguard duplicate permanent records of marriages performed in the State of Maryland, as provided in Section 18 of Article 62 of this Code, for the purpose of ensuring against loss or destruction of the records maintained in the several courts and for the purpose of providing certified copies of records for marriages performed after June 1, 1951. **[Said Board]** *The State Board of Health and Mental Hygiene* shall also receive from the clerks of the appropriate courts of Baltimore City and of the several counties of the State of Maryland reports of divorces and annulments of marriage, as provided in said Section 18 of Article 62, *and shall make indices for such reports.* **[Provided, however, that]** Nothing in this sub-section shall be construed as giving **[said Board]** *the State Board of Health and Mental Hygiene* authority to make certifications as to divorces and annulments of marriage; and **[provided further that]** nothing in this sub-section shall limit the authority of the clerks of the appropriate courts of Baltimore City and of the several counties of the State of Maryland to furnish certifications of marriages, divorces, and annulments of marriage in accordance with their usual custom and as authorized by law.

[2] (ii) The State Board of Health *and Mental Hygiene* shall make changes in the marriage and divorce and annulment records in its file only upon certification by the responsible Clerk of the Court of Baltimore City or **[of]** one of the several counties of the State of Maryland, as provided in said Section 18 of Article 62, that the proposed change is correct and that the corresponding record of the Clerk of the Court is being changed in like manner. In any question arising from discrepancy between the record of the Clerk of the Court and the record of the State Board of Health *and Mental Hygiene* in the case of marriages, divorces and annulments of marriage, the record of the Clerk of the Court shall be considered correct.

15. Appointment of registrars.

[(a) Health officers ex officio registrars—]

Local health officers of the several counties shall be ex officio county registrars of vital **[statistics]** *records.* The Commissioner of Health of Baltimore City shall be ex officio Registrar of vital **[statistics]** *records* of Baltimore City.