



SPONSOR: Rep. Osienski & Sen. Gay
Reps. Baumbach, Carson, Heffernan, K. Johnson,
Morrison, Wilson-Anton; Sens. Bonini, S. McBride,
Pinkney, Sokola

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
151st GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE BILL NO. 274

AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 10 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO CHANGE OF NAME.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE:

1 Section 1. Amend Chapter 59, Title 10 of the Delaware Code by making deletions as shown by strike through and
2 insertions as shown by underline as follows:

3 ~~§ 5903. Publication of petition prior to filing. [For application of this section, see 82 Del. Laws, c. 84, § 5]~~

4 ~~Except for petitions under § 5901(b) of this title, no petition for change of name under this chapter shall be granted~~
5 ~~unless it affirmatively appears that the petition or a notice thereof has been published in a newspaper published in the~~
6 ~~county in which the proceeding is had, at least once a week for 3 weeks before the petition is filed.~~

SYNOPSIS

This Act repeals the requirement that individuals seeking to change their name publish notice of the petition for change of name in a newspaper published in the county in which the proceeding is had at least once a week for 3 weeks before the petition is filed. This provision does not exist in 20 other states, including our neighbors in New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia, and serves to only add an additional financial barrier to those seeking to change their name.