

**Utah Marriage Commission Fee Amendments**

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Melissa G. Ballard**

Senate Sponsor:

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**LONG TITLE****General Description:**

This bill modifies funds the Utah Marriage Commission receives.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- eliminates the \$400,000 limit on funds the Utah Marriage Commission may receive from county marriage license fees.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:****AMENDS:**

**17-66-303**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special Session, Chapter 13

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*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **17-66-303** is amended to read:

**17-66-303 . Fees of county officers.**

(1) As used in this section, "county officer" means a county officer enumerated in Section 17-66-102 except a county recorder, a county constable, or a county sheriff.

(2)(a) A county officer shall collect, in advance, for exclusive county use and benefit:

- (i) a fee established by the county legislative body under Section 17-63-707; and

- (ii) any other fee authorized or required by law.

(b) As long as the Children's Legal Defense Account is authorized by Section 51-9-408, the county clerk shall:

- (i) assess \$10 in addition to whatever fee for a marriage license is established under authority of this section; and

- 31 (ii) transmit \$10 from each marriage license fee to the Division of Finance for deposit  
32 into the Children's Legal Defense Account.
- 33 (c)(i) As long as the Division of Child and Family Services, created in Section  
34 80-2-201, has the responsibility under Section 80-2-301 to provide services,  
35 including temporary shelter, for victims of domestic violence, the county clerk  
36 shall:
- 37 (A) collect \$10 in addition to whatever fee for a marriage license is established  
38 under authority of this section and in addition to the amount described in  
39 Subsection (2)(b), if an applicant chooses, as provided in Subsection (2)(c)(ii),  
40 to pay the additional \$10; and
- 41 (B) to the extent actually paid, transmit \$10 from each marriage license fee to the  
42 Division of Finance for distribution to the Division of Child and Family  
43 Services for the operation of shelters for victims of domestic violence.
- 44 (ii)(A) The county clerk shall provide a method for an applicant for a marriage  
45 license to choose to pay the additional \$10 referred to in Subsection (2)(c)(i).  
46 (B) An applicant for a marriage license may choose not to pay the additional \$10  
47 referred to in Subsection (2)(c)(i) without affecting the applicant's ability to be  
48 issued a marriage license.
- 49 (d) If a county operates an online marriage application system, the county clerk of that  
50 county:
- 51 (i) may assess \$20 in addition to the other fees for a marriage license established  
52 under this section;
- 53 (ii) except as provided in Subsection (2)(d)(iii), shall transmit \$20 from the marriage  
54 license fee to the state treasurer for deposit annually [as follows:]  
55 [~~(A) the first \$400,000 shall accrue~~] as a dedicated credit to the Utah Marriage  
56 Commission, created in Title 63M, Chapter 15, Utah Marriage Commission,[  
57 ~~as dedicated credits~~] for the operation of the Utah Marriage Commission; and  
58 [~~(B) proceeds in excess of \$400,000 shall be deposited into the General Fund; and~~]
- 59 (iii) may not transmit \$20 from the marriage license fee to the state treasurer under  
60 this Subsection (2)(d) if both individuals seeking the marriage license certify that  
61 they have completed premarital counseling or education in accordance with  
62 Section 81-2-206.
- 63 (3) This section does not apply to a fee currently being assessed by the state but collected  
64 by a county officer.

65           Section 2. **Effective Date.**

66           This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.