

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 780

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE POGUE.

1060H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 451.100, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to persons authorized to solemnize marriages

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 451.100, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 451.100, to read as follows:

451.100. 1. Marriages may be solemnized by any clergyman, either active or retired, who is in good standing with any church or synagogue in this state. Marriages may also be solemnized, without compensation, by any judge, including a municipal judge. Marriages may also be solemnized by a religious society, religious institution, or religious organization of this state, according to the regulations and customs of the society, institution or organization, when either party to the marriage to be solemnized is a member of such society, institution or organization.

2. **Any person authorized to solemnize marriages under subsection 1 of this section may refuse to solemnize a marriage if the solemnization of such marriage is contrary to the religious beliefs or sincerely held moral convictions of such person authorized to solemnize marriages.**

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EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.