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S.B. 341
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Reported by Senate Judiciary

Primary Sponsors: Sens. DeMora and Blessing

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SUMMARY

- Prohibits the marriage of individuals under 18 years old.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Minimum marriage age

S.B. 341 prohibits the marriage of individuals under 18 years old.[1] Current law permits a 17-year-old to marry if (1) the juvenile court files a consent to the marriage after consulting with the minor's parent, guardian, or permanent custodian; appointing a guardian ad litem for the minor; and determining that the minor is independent, the decision to marry is free from force or coercion, and the intended marriage is in the minor's best interests, (2) the other person is not more than four years older, (3) a probate judge has both parties state that they have received marriage counseling satisfactory to the court, and (4) a 14-day waiting period is completed.[2] Instead, the bill establishes that the minimum age of marriage is 18 with no exceptions.[3]

[1] R.C. 3101.02, 3101.04, 3101.041 and 3101.042, all repealed by the bill; conforming changes in R.C. 2151.23, 2151.233, 2151.352, 3101.01, 3101.05, and 3109.011.

[2] R.C. 3101.02 and 3101.04, both repealed by the bill; R.C. 3101.05(A).

[3] R.C. 3101.01(A).

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	01-20-26
Reported, S. Judiciary	06-10-26

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