
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6918

AN ACT PROHIBITING FIRST COUSIN MARRIAGE.

SUMMARY

This bill makes first cousins ineligible to marry each other. It does so by prohibiting them from knowingly entering any such marriage on or after October 1, 2025.

Existing law already prohibits anyone from marrying his or her parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, sibling, parent's sibling, sibling's child, stepparent, or stepchild; and makes any such marriage void.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

ELIGIBILITY TO MARRY

Under existing law, a person is eligible to marry, if he or she is at least age 18 and is not:

1. already married, or in a relationship that provides substantially the same rights, benefits, and responsibilities as a marriage, entered into in Connecticut or another state or jurisdiction (unless the parties to the marriage are the same individuals in the relationship);
2. under the supervision or control of a conservator, unless the conservator's signed and acknowledged written consent is filed with the registrar of vital statistics; and
3. prohibited from entering a marriage because the other party is his or her parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, sibling, parent's sibling, sibling's child, stepparent, or stepchild.

Under the bill's prohibition, first cousins are also not eligible to

marry.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 41 Nay 0 (04/04/2025)