

No. 102

AN ACT

To amend section 1 of the act, approved the twenty-fifth day of May, one thousand nine hundred thirty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 192), entitled "An act authorizing women who have been divorced from the bonds of matrimony to retake and use their maiden names; and making certified copies of their election evidence in all cases," by providing that a woman divorced under either local or foreign decree may resume her maiden or prior name.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Section 1 of the act, approved the twenty-fifth day of May, one thousand nine hundred thirty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 192), entitled "An act authorizing women who have been divorced from the bonds of matrimony to retake and use their maiden names; and making certified copies of their election evidence in all cases," is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 1. It shall be lawful for any woman who has heretofore been or shall hereafter be divorced from the bonds of matrimony to retake and thereafter use her maiden name *or her prior name*. Every such woman who elects to resume her maiden name *or her prior name* shall file a written notice avowing such intention in the office of the prothonotary of the court in which such decree of divorce was entered, showing the caption and number and term of the proceeding in divorce, and duly acknowledged before a notary public. *Where a divorced woman has a decree of divorce granted in a foreign *jurisdiction, a certified copy of such foreign divorce decree shall be filed with the prothonotary of the county where the affiant resides, and thereafter such a woman desiring to resume either her maiden name or her prior name may file a written notice so to do by making full reference therein to the filing of the foreign divorce decree with the prothonotary of the county where the affiant resides.* A copy of the [instrument] *written notice in either case*, so filed, duly certified by the prothonotary, shall be competent evidence for all purposes of the right and duty of such woman to use such maiden name *or her prior name* thereafter.

Marriage.

Section 1, act of May 25, 1939, P. L. 192, amended.

Lawful for divorced woman to retake her maiden name or prior name.

Filing of written notice of intention to do so.

Procedure where decree of divorce granted in foreign jurisdiction.

APPROVED—The 13th day of July, A. D. 1953.

JOHN S. FINE

* "jurisdiction" in original.