

**Department of Fiscal Services**  
Maryland General Assembly

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 337 (Delegate Grosfeld, et al.)  
Judiciary

---

**Family Law - Grounds for Absolute Divorce - Constructive Desertion**

---

This bill establishes an additional ground for absolute divorce to be known as “constructive desertion.” Two conditions must be met for a decree of absolute divorce to be granted for this cause: (1) conduct by a party inconsistent with maintaining the health, self-respect, and reasonable comfort of the other party within the marriage; and (2) persistent conduct damaging to the safety, health, or self-respect of the complainant.

---

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. This change can be handled with the existing budgeted resources of the Judiciary.

**Local Effect:** None.

---

**Information Source(s):** Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Fiscal Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 7, 1996

ncs

---

Analysis by: Guy Cherry  
Reviewed by: John Rixey

Direct Inquiries to:  
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst  
(410) 841-3710  
(301) 858-3710