

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1135 (Delegate Rosenberg, *et al.*)
Judiciary

Divorce and Annulment - Removal of Barriers to Remarriage

This bill provides that a party to a marriage that was performed by an official of a religious order or body who files an application for an absolute divorce or annulment must include specified statements in the application that the applicant has taken “all steps solely within the applicant’s power” to remove all “barriers to remarriage” by the other party to the marriage. The required statements for the application for divorce or annulment may be waived by the other party to the marriage.

The court may not issue a decree for an absolute divorce or annulment until specified statements are filed, unless the other party to the marriage waives the required statements. Individuals who knowingly make false sworn statements relating to the absolute divorce and annulment or the removal of barriers to remarriage are subject to the penalty of perjury. The bill also specifies the conditions under which a court may not issue a decree of divorce or annulment.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill would not directly affect State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None. The bill would not directly affect small businesses.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 17, 1997

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