

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 16 (Delegate Taylor and Chairman, Judiciary Committee, *et al.*)
(Family Violence Council)

Judiciary

Family Law - Grounds for Divorce - Waiting Period

This bill provides an exception to the conditions under which absolute divorce may be granted on the grounds of desertion. Under current law, an absolute divorce may be granted on the grounds of desertion if the desertion has continued for 12 months without interruption before the filing of the application for divorce. This bill eliminates the 12-month separation requirement if there is a history of household violence with no reasonable expectation of reconciliation.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill would not materially affect State activities or 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 7, 1997

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