

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
 Revised

House Bill 9 (Delegate Hecht. *et al.*)

Judiciary

Family Law - Grounds for Absolute Divorce - Domestic Violence

This bill adds “cruelty of treatment toward the complaining party, if there is no reasonable expectation of reconciliation” and “excessively vicious conduct toward the complaining party, if there is no reasonable expectation of reconciliation,” to the grounds for which a court may decree an absolute divorce. Under current law, an absolute divorce may be granted on the grounds of: (1) adultery; (2) desertion; (3) voluntary separation; (4) conviction of a felony or misdemeanor; (5) a two-year separation; or (6) insanity.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. Any effect on the Judiciary’s caseload is expected to be negligible.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Information Source(s): Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Human Resources, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 22, 1998
 ncs Revised - Enrolled Bill - April 30, 1998

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