

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 30 (Delegate Giannetti)

Judiciary

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**Family Law - Grounds for Absolute Divorce - Protective Orders**

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This bill adds issuance of a protective order on behalf of the complaining party to the grounds for which a court may decree an absolute divorce. The protective order must be in effect at the time of the filing of the application for divorce. Under current law, an absolute divorce may be granted on the grounds of: (1) adultery; (2) desertion; (3) voluntary separation; (4) conviction of crime; (5) 2-year separation; (6) insanity; (7) cruelty of treatment; and (8) excessively vicious conduct.

The bill applies to cases filed and protective orders issued on or after the bill's October 1, 1999 effective date.

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**Fiscal Summary**

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

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - January 27, 1999

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Analysis by: Claire E. Rooney

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 946-5510

(301) 970-5510