

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 87 (Delegate Grosfeld)
Judiciary

Family Law - Alimony - Grounds for Divorce

This bill provides that, when alimony is available, a court may award alimony to either party, regardless of whether the party seeking alimony alleges or proves the existence of a ground that would entitle that party to a limited or absolute divorce.

The bill applies only to cases filed on or after the bill's October 1, 2000, effective date.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill would not materially affect circuit court operations.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The statute that the bill seeks to amend currently states simply that the court may award alimony to either party. A court may award alimony on a bill of complaint for alimony or as part of a decree that grants an annulment, a limited divorce, or an absolute divorce.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: A similar bill was introduced during the 1999 session as HB 247 and received an unfavorable report from the Judiciary Committee.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 27, 2000

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