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By: **Senator Kittleman (By Request) and Senator Schrader**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2006

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Law - Motions for Modification of a Child Support Award - Hearings**  
3 **and Decisions**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring a court to hold a hearing on a motion for modification of  
5 a child support award within a certain time period after the date the motion was  
6 filed; requiring a court to issue a decision on a motion for modification of a child  
7 support award within a certain time period after a hearing; and generally  
8 relating to motions for modification of a child support award.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article - Family Law  
11 Section 12-104  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
15 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article - Family Law**

17 12-104.

18 (a) The court may modify a child support award subsequent to the filing of a  
19 motion for modification and upon a showing of a material change of circumstance.

20 (b) The court may not retroactively modify a child support award prior to the  
21 date of the filing of the motion for modification.

22 (C) THE COURT SHALL HOLD A HEARING ON A MOTION FOR MODIFICATION  
23 WITHIN 150 DAYS AFTER THE DATE THE MOTION WAS FILED.

24 (D) THE COURT SHALL ISSUE A DECISION ON A MOTION FOR MODIFICATION  
25 WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE HEARING.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
27 October 1, 2006.

