

# HOUSE BILL 1185

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5lr2877

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By: **Delegate Dumais**

Introduced and read first time: February 23, 2015

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Law – Application for Divorce – Residency Requirement**

3 FOR the purpose of reducing the period of time, under certain circumstances, that a party  
4 to an application for divorce must reside in the State before the application may be  
5 filed; and generally relating to applications for divorce.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 Article – Family Law  
8 Section 7–101(a)  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Family Law**

14 7–101.

15 (a) If the grounds for the divorce occurred outside of this State, a party may not  
16 apply for a divorce unless [1] ONE of the parties has resided in this State for at least [1  
17 year] **6 MONTHS** before the application is filed.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
19 October 1, 2015.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

