

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 764

H.P. 566 House of Representatives, March 13, 1987
Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and
ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative McHENRY of Madawaska.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SEVEN

1 AN ACT to Provide a Waiting Period Prior to
2 Granting of Divorce.
3

4 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as
5 follows:

6 19 MRSA §691, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

7 3. Waiting period. Where the complaint is filed
8 on or after October 1, 1987, an action for divorce
9 shall not be in order for hearing until 6 months or
10 more after service of the summons and complaint.

1 STATEMENT OF FACT

2 This bill provides a 6-month waiting period prior
3 to granting a decree of divorce to discourage the
4 easy breakup of marriage by maintaining the marital
5 relationship and fostering a reconciliation.

6 Currently, the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure
7 provide a 60-day waiting period between the filing of
8 a divorce complaint and the hearing of the divorce.
9 This bill will supersede that rule.

10

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