

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1027

H.P. 737

House of Representatives, February 9, 1999

An Act to Extend the Waiting Period for Obtaining a Divorce.

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative DESMOND of Mapleton.
Cosponsored by Senator PARADIS of Aroostook and
Representatives: BAKER of Bangor, DUGAY of Cherryfield, POVICH of Ellsworth,
RICHARD of Madison, SHERMAN of Hodgdon, SIROIS of Caribou, STEDMAN of Hartland.

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

Sec. 1. 19-A MRSA §909 is enacted to read:

\$909. Time of trial

An action for divorce is not in order for hearing until 6 months or more after service of the summons and complaint unless a protection order under chapter 101 against one of the parties for the purpose of protecting the other party or another family or household member is in existence.

Sec. 2. Effective date. This Act takes effect October 1, 1999.

SUMMARY

This bill establishes a 6-month waiting period between the service of a divorce complaint and the divorce hearing, except that the waiting period does not apply to any person who has obtained a protection from abuse order to protect that person or another family or household member from the other party. This change in law would be effective October 1, 1999.