

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

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Legislative Document

No. 479

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S.P. 144

In Senate, January 31, 2019

**An Act To Amend the Law Regarding Cessation of Alimony upon  
Cohabitation**

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Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by President JACKSON of Aroostook.  
Cosponsored by Representative BAILEY of Saco.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 19-A MRSA §951-A, sub-§12**, as enacted by PL 2013, c. 327, §2, is  
3 amended to read:

4 **12. Cessation upon cohabitation.** When it appears that justice requires, an order  
5 awarding spousal support is subject to modification to terminate spousal support when it  
6 can be shown that the payee and another person have entered into a mutually supportive  
7 relationship that is the functional equivalent of marriage that has existed for at least ~~12~~  
8 months of a period of 18 consecutive months 5 years over a period of 7 consecutive  
9 years.

10 **SUMMARY**

11 Under current law, the court may terminate spousal support when the payee and  
12 another person have entered into a relationship that is the functional equivalent of  
13 marriage for at least 12 months of a period of 18 consecutive months. This bill changes  
14 the time frame of cohabitation necessary for cessation of spousal support to 5 years over a  
15 period of 7 consecutive years.