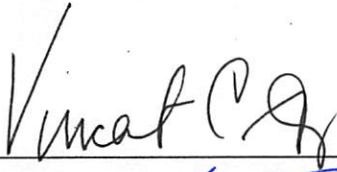
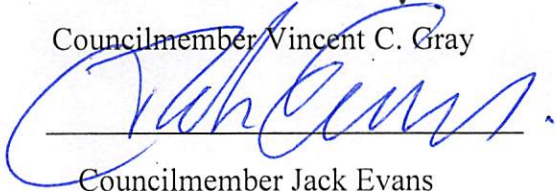


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2 Councilmember Vincent C. Gray



Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau

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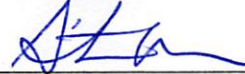
4 Councilmember Jack Evans



Councilmember David Grosso

6 

7 Councilmember Robert White, Jr.



Councilmember Anita D. Bonds



Councilmember Mary C. Cheh

15 A BILL

19 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

24 To amend Chapter 9 of Title 16 of the District of Columbia Official Code to allow for an injured  
25 spouse to be granted a divorce within 3 months upon the finding of an intrafamily  
26 violence; to prohibit an award of alimony, any interest in the injured spouse's pension  
27 and retirement benefits or attorney fees to a spouse when there has been a judicial finding  
28 they have committed an intrafamily offense; to void any claim of stemming from an  
29 affidavit of support of the injuring spouse against the injured spouse if entered into before  
30 a finding of intrafamily violence.

32 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this  
33 act may be cited as the "Alimony Justice for Injured Spouses Amendment Act of 2019".

34 Sec. 2. Chapter 9 of Title 16 of the District of Columbia Official Code is amended as  
35 follows:

36 (a) Section 16-904(a) is amended as follows:

37 (1) Paragraph (2) is amended by striking the period and inserting the phrase “;  
38 and” in its place.

39 (2) A new paragraph (3) is added to read as follows:

40 “(3) Upon a judicial finding of an intrafamily offense, the parties may obtain a  
41 divorce within 3 months of filing a complaint provided that they have lived separate and apart  
42 since the date of the intrafamily offense. The spouse who has been found to have committed the  
43 intrafamily offense may not delay the divorce proceedings.”

44 (b) Section 16-913 is amended by adding new subsections (e) and (f) to read as follows:

45 “(e) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, in any proceeding for dissolution of  
46 marriage where there is a judicial finding of an intrafamily offense as defined in section §16-  
47 1001(8) by one spouse against the other spouse:

48 “(1) The injuring spouse shall be prohibited from any award of alimony;

49 “(2) The injuring spouse shall not be entitled to claim any part of the injured  
50 spouse’s retirement and pension benefits;

51 “(3) Any agreement or affidavit of support of the injuring spouse against the  
52 injured spouse shall be deemed void if entered into before the date of the intrafamily offense; and

53 “(4) The injuring spouse shall not be entitled to claim any attorney fees from the  
54 injured spouse’s separate property.

55 “(f) For purposes of this section:

56 “(1) “Injured spouse” means the spouse who has been the subject of intrafamily  
57 violence or who is protected by a civil protection order.

58                   “(2) “Injuring spouse” means the spouse who has been determined by a judicial  
59 finding to have committed an intrafamily offense or is the subject of a civil protection order  
60 brought by the injured spouse.”.

61

62                   Sec. 4. Fiscal impact statement.

63                   The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal  
64 impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975,  
65 approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

66                   Sec. 5. Effective date.

67                   This act shall take effect after approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the  
68 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as  
69 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December  
70 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of  
71 Columbia Register.