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

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

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

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

SUMMARY

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