

(e) Members of the Task Force shall serve without compensation except that the members may be reimbursed for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

(f) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, in cooperation with other appropriate State and local units, shall provide staff support for the Task Force to the extent possible within existing budgeted resources.

(g) The Task Force shall issue a final report of its findings, recommendations, and comprehensive strategy to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly on or before January 1, [2000] 2001.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1999.

Approved May 13, 1999.

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**CHAPTER 391**

**(House Bill 72)**

AN ACT concerning

**Family Law - Award of Expenses**

FOR the purpose of adding absolute divorce, limited divorce, and property disposition in annulment or divorce to the types of proceedings in which a court may award to either party an amount for the reasonable and necessary expense of prosecuting or defending the proceeding; requiring the court to consider certain factors before making an award; authorizing the court to award reimbursement for certain expenses previously paid; providing for the payment of counsel fees directly to certain persons; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to the award of reasonable and necessary expenses in certain proceedings.

BY adding to

Article - Family Law

Section 7-107 and 8-214

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1999 Replacement Volume)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article - Family Law**

7-107.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, "REASONABLE AND NECESSARY EXPENSE" INCLUDES: