

CHAPTER 491

(House Bill 1381)

AN ACT concerning

Grounds-for-Absolute-Divorce---Statutory-Separation
Divorce and Annulment

FOR the purpose of reducing the period of time during which the parties must continuously live separate and apart without cohabitation before filing an application for absolute divorce on the grounds of statutory separation; repealing certain grounds for divorce; providing that condonation and recrimination do not bar divorce on certain grounds, but that recrimination is a factor for the court to consider in granting a divorce on a certain ground; conferring certain powers on the court in granting a divorce a mensa et thoro; providing that the court may issue certain orders if the court finds that one of the parties to a divorce or annulment is insane under certain circumstances; generally relating to divorce and annulment; and providing for the prospective effect of this Act

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 16 - Chancery
Section 24, 25, 26, and 26A
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1981 Replacement Volume and 1982 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article 16 - Chancery
Section 26A
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1981 Replacement Volume and 1982 Supplement)

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

Article 16 - Chancery

24.

Upon a hearing of any bill for a divorce, the court may decree a divorce a vinculo matrimonii for the following causes; to-wit: first, the impotence of either party at the time of the marriage; secondly, for any cause which by the laws of this State, render a marriage null and void ab initio; thirdly, for