

FOR the purpose of requiring that military pensions be considered in a certain manner by a court when determining property disposition in divorce and annulment.

BY renumbering

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings
Section 3-6A-07
to be Section 3-6A-08
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1980 Replacement Volume and 1982 Supplement)

BY-repealing-and-reenacting,-with-amendments,

Article---Courts-and-Judicial-Proceedings
Section-3-6A-01(e)-and-3-6A-05

BY adding to

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings
Section 3-6A-07
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1980 Replacement Volume and 1982 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS,--The--Maryland--Court--of--Appeals--and--the--Court--of Special--Appeals--have--decided--that--pension--and--retirement--benefits are--marital--property--under--the--State--Marital--Property--Act--and therefore--subject--to--an--equitable--distribution--between--the spouses--when--the--marriage--is--dissolved;--and

WHEREAS,--However,--the--Maryland--Court--of--Appeals,--in--Hill--v--Hill,--291--Md.---615,--436-A. 2D-67-(1981),--deferred--to--the--United States--Supreme--Court's--holding--in--McCarty--v--McCarty,--453--U.--S. 210--(1981)--that--federal--law--on--military--retirement--benefits precludes--a--state--court--from--dividing--military--retirement--pay pursuant--to--state--community--property--laws;--and

WHEREAS,--The--97th--Congress--has--responded--to--the--decision--of the--Supreme--Court--by--passing--the--"Uniformed--Services--Former Spouses'--Protection--Act,"--10--U.S.C.---§--1408,--effective--Feb.--1, 1983,--and

WHEREAS,--The--Uniformed--Services--Former--Spouses'--Protection Act--permits--state--courts--to--treat--disposable--military--pensions, retirement--benefits--or--retainer--pay--payable--to--a--service--member for--pay--periods--beginning--after--June--25,--1981,--either--as--property solely--of--the--member--or--as--property--of--the--member--and--the member's--spouse--in--accordance--with--state--law;--and

WHEREAS,--It--is--the--policy--of--this--State--and--this--General Assembly--to--protect--former--spouses--by--acknowledging--and--carefully