

The Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act (URESAs) was first promulgated by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws in 1950. Amendments to the act were promulgated in 1952 and 1958. A Revised URESA was promulgated to the states in 1968. Maryland adopted the original URESA in 1951. All of the states have adopted URESA in some form, and 29 have enacted the 1968 Act.

Various amendments to URESA have been enacted in Maryland. These amendments relate primarily to local procedure. Although the Maryland Act was amended several times since promulgation of the 1968 Act, it has not been enacted in this State.

The Commission to Revise the Annotated Code usually makes only minimal changes in revising Uniform Acts. However, in revising the Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act, the Commission has made a considerable number of stylistic changes. Most of these changes conform to the language of the 1968 Act, which, in fact, is the law in a majority of jurisdictions. Wherever following the 1968 Act might work a substantive change, the Commission has kept the wording of the former law.

TITLE 11. ALIMONY.

11-101. AWARD -- IN GENERAL.

(A) WHEN COURT MAY AWARD.

THE COURT MAY AWARD ALIMONY:

- (1) ON A BILL OF COMPLAINT FOR ALIMONY; OR
- (2) AS A PART OF A DECREE THAT GRANTS:
 - (I) AN ANNULMENT;
 - (II) A LIMITED DIVORCE; OR
 - (III) AN ABSOLUTE DIVORCE.

(B) AWARD TO EITHER PARTY.

THE COURT MAY AWARD ALIMONY TO EITHER PARTY.

(C) EFFECT OF AGREEMENT.

IF A FINAL DISPOSITION AS TO ALIMONY HAS BEEN MADE IN AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PARTIES, THE COURT IS BOUND BY THAT AGREEMENT AS THE AGREEMENT RELATES TO ALIMONY.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section is new language derived without substantive change from the first clause of the first sentence and the entire second sentence of former Article 16, § 1(a).