
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2502 Session of
2026

INTRODUCED BY ORTITAY, KULIK, GAYDOS, JAMES, KUZMA AND CIRESI,
MAY 11, 2026

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MAY 11, 2026

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in dissolution of marital status,
3 further providing for decree of court.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Section 3323(c.1) of Title 23 of the Pennsylvania
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

8 § 3323. Decree of court.

9 * * *

10 (c.1) Bifurcation.--[With]

11 (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), with the
12 consent of both parties, the court may enter a decree of
13 divorce or annulment prior to the final determination and
14 disposition of the matters provided for in subsection (b) if
15 the court determines that doing so provides sufficient
16 economic protections for any minor children of the marriage.
17 In the absence of the consent of both parties, the court may
18 enter a decree of divorce or annulment prior to the final

1 determination and disposition of the matters provided for in
2 subsection (b) if:

3 [(1) grounds have been established as provided in
4 subsection (g); and

5 (2) the moving party has demonstrated that:

6 (i) compelling circumstances exist for the entry of
7 the decree of divorce or annulment; and

8 (ii) sufficient economic protections have been
9 provided for the other party and any minor children of
10 the marriage during the pendency of the disposition of
11 the matters provided for in subsection (b).]

12 (i) grounds have been established as provided in
13 subsection (g); and

14 (ii) the moving party has demonstrated that:

15 (A) compelling circumstances exist for the entry
16 of the decree of divorce or annulment; and

17 (B) sufficient economic protections have been
18 provided for the other party and any minor children
19 of the marriage during the pendency of the
20 disposition of the matters provided for in subsection
21 (b).

22 (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the court shall have
23 the authority to enter a decree of divorce or annulment prior
24 to the final determination and disposition of all claims
25 raised in the complaint without the consent of both parties
26 and without a showing of compelling circumstances if any of
27 the following apply:

28 (i) A valid protection from abuse order has been
29 entered under Chapter 61 (relating to protection from
30 abuse) in which one party is the defendant and the other

1 party is the plaintiff.

2 (ii) A party has been charged with or convicted of a
3 personal injury crime, as defined in section 103 of the
4 act of November 24, 1998 (P.L.882, No.111), known as the
5 Crime Victims Act, against the other party.

6 * * *

7 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.