

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

**FISCAL:** No fiscal impact

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**Action:** Do Pass  
**Vote:** 4 - 0 - 1  
**Yeas:** Kruse, Prozanski, Walker, Burdick  
**Nays:** 0  
**Exc.:** Beyer  
**Prepared By:** Matt Kalmanson, Counsel  
**Meeting Dates:** 1/23

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Amends statutes that require parties to use statutory forms to request a hearing and seek relief in child custody, marriage dissolution, and familial abuse cases. Repeals the provisions that create the forms that the parties must use and instead requires the State Court Administrator to create forms and informational brochures that comply with the statute. Requires the Administrator to create a form allowing a party to seek a waiver or deferral of fees for the summary dissolution of a marriage. Requires a party who petitions a court for a summary dissolution to serve the petition and a summons on the spouse, and requires the spouse to file a written answer within 30 days. Allows a court to find the spouse in default, enter a judgment for summary dissolution and award cost if the spouse fails to answer the petition.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Legislative counsel's recommendation that statutory forms be removed
- Need for frequent amendments to statutory forms
- Confusion among bar about proper forms to use

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** There are several domestic relations statutes that contain forms that parties must use to request a hearing and seek relief. SB 269 repeals the provisions that contain these forms, and requires the Administrator to create the requisite forms. The intent of SB 269 is to allow the Judicial Department to update, simplify, and easily correct court-provided forms, and make them readily available on the Internet.