

# OREGON ALIMONY REFORM

## House Bill No. 2559

### A. Proposed Changes in Alimony Law

	Proposed Law Change	Effect of Law Change
1	<b>Calculates alimony amount based on percentage of the payer's income</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishes fair, predictable, and consistent guidelines (similar to current Oregon Child Support Guidelines)</li> <li>Streamlines process for alimony modification when payer's income declines—reduces litigation expense</li> </ul>
2	<b>Terminates alimony support upon good faith retirement of payer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supports financial planning and retirement for Oregonian payers. Under current Oregon law, some payers are not able to retire.</li> </ul>
3	<b>Limits the duration of alimony support to a reasonable time period—not lifetime</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourages alimony recipient to attend school or to seek employment if they are aware that support will be terminated after a period of time.</li> <li>Encourages independence, productivity, and personal responsibility for both parties so they can both continue on with their lives and become productive members of society</li> <li>Fosters fairness and planning for future</li> </ul>
4	<b>Terminates alimony on remarriage or co-habitation of recipient</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishes guidelines to reduce expectations for continued support when recipient is already in a supportive marriage or cohabitating relationship. The current law is supporting former spouse and new romantic partner (and sometimes children of former spouse's new partner)</li> </ul>
5	<b>Excludes income or assets of payer's partner or future spouse in determining alimony</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excludes new spouse's income or assets in alimony support</li> </ul>
6	<b>Preserves judicial discretion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Judges will still have discretion in appropriate cases</li> </ul>

### B. Why Reform is Necessary – For Fairness, For Families

- 1) Provides fair, consistent, and predictable guidelines in setting alimony judgments
- 2) Oregon laws are obsolete and should reflect today's social and economic conditions
- 3) Reduces conflict and time consuming, emotional, and expensive litigation
- 4) Reflects gender equity and promotes fairness and predictability in divorce proceedings
- 5) Provides families the support they need to move forward with both parties' lives

### C. Alimony Reform Passed or Being Considered in Other States

Massachusetts	Connecticut	Virginia	Oklahoma	Arizona
Florida	New Jersey	California	North Carolina	Texas
Pennsylvania	Georgia	Maine	South Carolina	

For more information, please visit:  
[www.OregonAlimonyReform.com](http://www.OregonAlimonyReform.com)  
[www.OregonAlimonyReform.blogspot.com](http://www.OregonAlimonyReform.blogspot.com)