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I N   S E N A T E

May 8, 2014

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Introduced by Sens. BONACIC, HASSELL-THOMPSON -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Judiciary

AN ACT to amend the domestic relations law, in relation to the duration and amount of maintenance; and to amend the family court act, in relation to spousal support

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     Section 1. Subdivision 5-a of part B of section 236 of the domestic  
2 relations law, as added by chapter 371 of the laws of 2010, is amended  
3 to read as follows:  
4     5-a. Temporary maintenance awards. a. Except where the parties have  
5 entered into an agreement pursuant to subdivision three of this part  
6 providing for maintenance, in any matrimonial action the court shall  
7 make its award for temporary maintenance pursuant to the provisions of  
8 this subdivision.  
9     b. For purposes of this subdivision, the following definitions shall  
10 be used:  
11     (1) "Payor" shall mean the spouse with the higher income.  
12     (2) "Payee" shall mean the spouse with the lower income.  
13     (3) "Length of marriage" shall mean the period from the date of  
14 marriage until the date of commencement of action.  
15     (4) "Income" shall mean[:  
16     (a)] income as defined in the child support standards act and codified  
17 in section two hundred forty of this article and section four hundred  
18 thirteen of the family court act[; and  
19     (b) income from income producing property to be distributed pursuant  
20 to subdivision five of this part].  
21     (5) "Income cap" shall mean up to and including [five] THREE hundred  
22 thousand dollars of the payor's annual income; provided, however, begin-  
23 ning January thirty-first, two thousand [twelve] SIXTEEN and every two  
24 years thereafter, the [payor's annual] income CAP amount shall increase  
25 by the [product] SUM of the average annual percentage changes in the  
26 consumer price index for all urban consumers (CPI-U) as published by the

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

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United States department of labor bureau of labor statistics for the PRIOR two [year period] YEARS MULTIPLIED BY THE CURRENT PAYOR'S ANNUAL INCOME AMOUNT AND THEN rounded to the nearest one thousand dollars. The office of court administration shall determine and publish the income cap.

(6) "Guideline amount of temporary maintenance" shall mean the [sum] DOLLAR AMOUNT derived by the application of paragraph c OR D of this subdivision.

(7) ["Guideline duration" shall mean the durational period determined by the application of paragraph d of this subdivision.

(8) "Presumptive award" shall mean the guideline amount of the temporary maintenance award for the guideline duration prior to the court's application of any adjustment factors as provided in subparagraph one of paragraph e of this subdivision.

(9)] "Self-support reserve" shall mean the self-support reserve as defined in the child support standards act and codified in section two hundred forty of this article and section four hundred thirteen of the family court act.

c. [The court shall determine the guideline amount of temporary maintenance in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph after determining the income of the parties:

(1) Where the payor's income is up to and including the income cap:

(a) the court shall subtract twenty percent of the income of the payee from thirty percent of the income up to the income cap of the payor.

(b) the court shall then multiply the sum of the payor's income up to and including the income cap and all of the payee's income by forty percent.

(c) the court shall subtract the income of the payee from the amount derived from clause (b) of this subparagraph.

(d) the guideline amount of temporary maintenance shall be the lower of the amounts determined by clauses (a) and (c) of this subparagraph; if the amount determined by clause (c) of this subparagraph is less than or equal to zero, the guideline amount shall be zero dollars.

(2) Where the income of the payor exceeds the income cap:

(a) the court shall determine the guideline amount of temporary maintenance for that portion of the payor's income that is up to and including the income cap according to subparagraph one of this paragraph, and, for the payor's income in excess of the income cap, the court shall determine any additional guideline amount of temporary maintenance through consideration of the following factors:

(i) the length of the marriage;

(ii) the substantial differences in the incomes of the parties;

(iii) the standard of living of the parties established during the marriage;

(iv) the age and health of the parties;

(v) the present and future earning capacity of the parties;

(vi) the need of one party to incur education or training expenses;

(vii) the wasteful dissipation of marital property;

(viii) the transfer or encumbrance made in contemplation of a matrimonial action without fair consideration;

(ix) the existence and duration of a pre-marital joint household or a pre-divorce separate household;

(x) acts by one party against another that have inhibited or continue to inhibit a party's earning capacity or ability to obtain meaningful employment. Such acts include but are not limited to acts of domestic

1 violence as provided in section four hundred fifty-nine-a of the social  
2 services law;

3 (xi) the availability and cost of medical insurance for the parties;

4 (xii) the care of the children or stepchildren, disabled adult chil-  
5 dren or stepchildren, elderly parents or in-laws that has inhibited or  
6 continues to inhibit a party's earning capacity or ability to obtain  
7 meaningful employment;

8 (xiii) the inability of one party to obtain meaningful employment due  
9 to age or absence from the workforce;

10 (xiv) the need to pay for exceptional additional expenses for the  
11 child or children, including, but not limited to, schooling, day care  
12 and medical treatment;

13 (xv) the tax consequences to each party;

14 (xvi) marital property subject to distribution pursuant to subdivision  
15 five of this part;

16 (xvii) the reduced or lost earning capacity of the party seeking  
17 temporary maintenance as a result of having foregone or delayed educa-  
18 tion, training, employment or career opportunities during the marriage;

19 (xviii) the contributions and services of the party seeking temporary  
20 maintenance as a spouse, parent, wage earner and homemaker and to the  
21 career or career potential of the other party; and

22 (xix) any other factor which the court shall expressly find to be just  
23 and proper.

24 (b)] WHERE THE PAYOR'S INCOME IS LOWER THAN OR EQUAL TO THE INCOME  
25 CAP, THE COURT SHALL DETERMINE THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF TEMPORARY MAINTENANCE AS FOLLOWS:

26  
27 (1) THE COURT SHALL SUBTRACT TWENTY PERCENT OF THE PAYEE'S INCOME FROM  
28 THIRTY PERCENT OF THE PAYOR'S INCOME.

29 (2) THE COURT SHALL THEN MULTIPLY THE SUM OF THE PAYOR'S INCOME AND  
30 THE PAYEE'S INCOME BY FORTY PERCENT.

31 (3) THE COURT SHALL SUBTRACT THE PAYEE'S INCOME FROM THE AMOUNT  
32 DERIVED FROM SUBPARAGRAPH TWO OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

33 (4) THE COURT SHALL DETERMINE THE LOWER OF AMOUNTS DERIVED BY SUBPARA-  
34 GRAPHS ONE AND THREE OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

35 (5) THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF TEMPORARY MAINTENANCE SHALL BE THE AMOUNT  
36 DETERMINED BY SUBPARAGRAPH FOUR OF THIS PARAGRAPH EXCEPT THAT, IF THE  
37 AMOUNT DETERMINED BY SUBPARAGRAPH FOUR OF THIS PARAGRAPH IS LESS THAN OR  
38 EQUAL TO ZERO, THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF TEMPORARY MAINTENANCE SHALL BE  
39 ZERO DOLLARS.

40 D. WHERE THE PAYOR'S INCOME EXCEEDS THE INCOME CAP, THE COURT SHALL  
41 DETERMINE THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF TEMPORARY MAINTENANCE AS FOLLOWS:

42 (1) THE COURT SHALL PERFORM THE CALCULATIONS SET FORTH IN SUBPARA-  
43 GRAPHS ONE THROUGH FOUR OF PARAGRAPH C OF THIS SUBDIVISION FOR THE TOTAL  
44 INCOMES OF PAYOR AND PAYEE.

45 (2) THE COURT SHALL PERFORM THE CALCULATIONS SET FORTH IN SUBPARA-  
46 GRAPHS ONE THROUGH FOUR OF PARAGRAPH C OF THIS SUBDIVISION FOR THE  
47 INCOME OF PAYOR UP TO AND INCLUDING THE INCOME CAP AND FOR THE INCOME OF  
48 PAYEE.

49 (3) THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF TEMPORARY MAINTENANCE SHALL BE EITHER:

50 (A) THE CALCULATION DERIVED FROM SUBPARAGRAPH ONE OF THIS PARAGRAPH;  
51 OR

52 (B) THE AMOUNT DERIVED FROM SUBPARAGRAPH TWO OF THIS PARAGRAPH PLUS AN  
53 AMOUNT THAT THE COURT SHALL DETERMINE BY CONSIDERATION OF THE FACTORS  
54 SET FORTH IN SUBPARAGRAPH ONE OF PARAGRAPH H OF THIS SUBDIVISION.

55 (4) In any decision made pursuant to CLAUSE (B) OF SUBPARAGRAPH THREE  
56 OF this [subparagraph] PARAGRAPH, the court shall set forth the factors

1 it considered and the reasons for its decision IN WRITING. Such written  
2 [order] DECISION may not be waived by either party or counsel.

3 [(3)] E. Notwithstanding the provisions of this [paragraph] SUBDIVI-  
4 SION, where the guideline amount of temporary maintenance would reduce  
5 the payor's income below the self-support reserve for a single person,  
6 [the presumptive amount of] the guideline amount of temporary mainte-  
7 nance shall be the difference between the payor's income and the self-  
8 support reserve. If the payor's income is below the self-support  
9 reserve, there is a rebuttable presumption that no temporary maintenance  
10 is awarded.

11 [d.] F. The court shall determine the [guideline] duration of tempo-  
12 rary maintenance by considering the length of the marriage.

13 G. Temporary maintenance shall terminate upon the issuance of the  
14 [final award] DETERMINATION of POST-DIVORCE maintenance or the death of  
15 either party, whichever occurs first.

16 [e.] H. (1) The court shall order the [presumptive award] GUIDELINE  
17 AMOUNT of temporary maintenance in accordance with paragraphs c and d of  
18 this subdivision, unless the court finds that the [presumptive award]  
19 GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF TEMPORARY MAINTENANCE is unjust or inappropriate and  
20 adjusts the [presumptive award] GUIDELINE AMOUNT of temporary mainte-  
21 nance accordingly based upon consideration of the following factors:

22 (a) [the standard of living of the parties established during the  
23 marriage;

24 (b)] the age and health of the parties;

25 [(c)] (B) the PRESENT OR FUTURE earning capacity of the parties,  
26 INCLUDING THE HISTORY OF LIMITED PARTICIPATION IN THE WORKFORCE;

27 [(d)] (C) the need of one party to incur education or training  
28 expenses;

29 [(e)] (D) the wasteful dissipation of marital property[;

30 (f) the transfer], INCLUDING TRANSFERS or [encumbrance] ENCUMBRANCES  
31 made in contemplation of a matrimonial action without fair consider-  
32 ation;

33 [(g)] (E) the existence and duration of a pre-marital joint household  
34 or a pre-divorce separate household;

35 [(h)] (F) acts by one party against another that have inhibited or  
36 continue to inhibit a party's earning capacity or ability to obtain  
37 meaningful employment. Such acts include but are not limited to acts of  
38 domestic violence as provided in section four hundred fifty-nine-a of  
39 the social services law;

40 [(i)] (G) the availability and cost of medical insurance for the  
41 parties;

42 [(j)] (H) the care of [the] children or stepchildren, disabled adult  
43 children or stepchildren, elderly parents or in-laws PROVIDED DURING THE  
44 MARRIAGE that [has inhibited or continues to inhibit] INHIBITS a party's  
45 earning capacity [or ability to obtain meaningful employment];

46 [(k) the inability of one party to obtain meaningful employment due to  
47 age or absence from the workforce;

48 (l)] (I) the need to pay for exceptional additional expenses for the  
49 child or children NOT ALREADY CONSIDERED IN DETERMINING CHILD SUPPORT  
50 PURSUANT TO THE CHILD SUPPORT STANDARDS ACT, including, but not limited  
51 to, schooling, day care and medical treatment;

52 [(m)] (J) the tax consequences to each party;

53 (K) THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF THE PARTIES ESTABLISHED DURING THE  
54 MARRIAGE;

55 [(n) marital property subject to distribution pursuant to subdivision  
56 five of this part;

(o)] (L) the reduced or lost earning capacity of the [party seeking temporary maintenance] PAYEE as a result of having foregone or delayed education, training, employment or career opportunities during the marriage;

[(p) the contributions and services of the party seeking temporary maintenance as a spouse, parent, wage earner and homemaker and to the career or career potential of the other party;] and

[(q)] (M) any other factor which the court shall expressly find to be just and proper.

(2) Where the court finds that the [presumptive award] GUIDELINE AMOUNT of temporary maintenance is unjust or inappropriate and the court adjusts the [presumptive award] GUIDELINE AMOUNT of temporary maintenance pursuant to this paragraph, the court shall set forth, in a written [order] DECISION, the [amount of the unadjusted presumptive award] GUIDELINE AMOUNT of temporary maintenance, the factors it considered, and the reasons that the court adjusted the [presumptive award] GUIDELINE AMOUNT of temporary maintenance. Such written [order] DECISION shall not be waived by either party or counsel.

(3) Where either or both parties are unrepresented, the court shall not enter a temporary maintenance order unless the COURT INFORMS THE unrepresented party or parties [have been informed] of the [presumptive award] GUIDELINE AMOUNT of temporary maintenance.

[f. A validly executed agreement or stipulation voluntarily entered into between the parties in an action commenced after the effective date of this subdivision presented to the court for incorporation in an order shall include a provision stating that the parties have been advised of the provisions of this subdivision, and that the presumptive award provided for therein results in the correct amount of temporary maintenance. In the event that such agreement or stipulation deviates from the presumptive award of temporary maintenance, the agreement or stipulation must specify the amount that such presumptive award of temporary maintenance would have been and the reason or reasons that such agreement or stipulation does not provide for payment of that amount. Such provision may not be waived by either party or counsel. Nothing contained in this subdivision shall be construed to alter the rights of the parties to voluntarily enter into validly executed agreements or stipulations which deviate from the presumptive award of temporary maintenance provided such agreements or stipulations comply with the provisions of this subdivision. The court shall, however, retain discretion with respect to temporary, and post-divorce maintenance awards pursuant to this section. Any court order incorporating a validly executed agreement or stipulation which deviates from the presumptive award of temporary maintenance shall set forth the court's reasons for such deviation.

g.] I. When a party has defaulted and/or the court is otherwise presented with insufficient evidence to determine [gross] income, the court shall order the temporary maintenance award based upon the needs of the payee or the standard of living of the parties prior to commencement of the divorce action, whichever is greater. Such order may be retroactively modified upward without a showing of change in circumstances upon a showing of newly discovered or obtained evidence.

[h.] J. In any action or proceeding for modification of an order of maintenance or alimony existing prior to the effective date of this subdivision, brought pursuant to this article, the temporary maintenance guidelines set forth in this subdivision shall not constitute a change of circumstances warranting modification of such support order.

1 [i. In any decision made pursuant to this subdivision the court shall,  
2 where appropriate, consider the effect of a barrier to remarriage, as  
3 defined in subdivision six of section two hundred fifty-three of this  
4 article, on the factors enumerated in this subdivision.]

5 K. THE COURT MAY ALLOCATE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE RESPECTIVE  
6 SPOUSES FOR THE FAMILY'S EXPENSES DURING THE PENDENCY OF THE PROCEEDING.

7 L. THE TEMPORARY MAINTENANCE ORDER SHALL NOT PREJUDICE THE RIGHTS OF  
8 EITHER PARTY REGARDING A POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE AWARD.

9 S 2. Subdivision 6 of part B of section 236 of the domestic relations  
10 law, as amended by chapter 371 of the laws of 2010, is amended to read  
11 as follows:

12 6. Post-divorce maintenance awards. a. Except where the parties have  
13 entered into an agreement pursuant to subdivision three of this part  
14 providing for maintenance, in any matrimonial action the court [may  
15 order maintenance in such amount as justice requires, having regard for  
16 the standard of living of the parties established during the marriage,  
17 whether the party in whose favor maintenance is granted lacks sufficient  
18 property and income to provide for his or her reasonable needs and  
19 whether the other party has sufficient property or income to provide for  
20 the reasonable needs of the other and the circumstances of the case and  
21 of the respective parties. Such order shall be effective as of the date  
22 of the application therefor, and any retroactive amount of maintenance  
23 due shall be paid in one sum or periodic sums, as the court shall  
24 direct, taking into account any amount of temporary maintenance which  
25 has been paid. In determining the amount and duration of maintenance the  
26 court shall consider:

27 (1) the income and property of the respective parties including mari-  
28 tal property distributed pursuant to subdivision five of this part;

29 (2) the length of the marriage;

30 (3) the age and health of both parties;

31 (4) the present and future earning capacity of both parties;

32 (5) the need of one party to incur education or training expenses;

33 (6) the existence and duration of a pre-marital joint household or a  
34 pre-divorce separate household;

35 (7) acts by one party against another that have inhibited or continue  
36 to inhibit a party's earning capacity or ability to obtain meaningful  
37 employment. Such acts include but are not limited to acts of domestic  
38 violence as provided in section four hundred fifty-nine-a of the social  
39 services law;

40 (8) the ability of the party seeking maintenance to become self-sup-  
41 porting and, if applicable, the period of time and training necessary  
42 therefor;

43 (9) reduced or lost lifetime earning capacity of the party seeking  
44 maintenance as a result of having foregone or delayed education, train-  
45 ing, employment, or career opportunities during the marriage;

46 (10) the presence of children of the marriage in the respective homes  
47 of the parties;

48 (11) the care of the children or stepchildren, disabled adult children  
49 or stepchildren, elderly parents or in-laws that has inhibited or  
50 continues to inhibit a party's earning capacity;

51 (12) the inability of one party to obtain meaningful employment due to  
52 age or absence from the workforce;

53 (13) the need to pay for exceptional additional expenses for the  
54 child/children, including but not limited to, schooling, day care and  
55 medical treatment;

56 (14) the tax consequences to each party;

(15) the equitable distribution of marital property;

(16) contributions and services of the party seeking maintenance as a spouse, parent, wage earner and homemaker, and to the career or career potential of the other party;

(17) the wasteful dissipation of marital property by either spouse;

(18) the transfer or encumbrance made in contemplation of a matrimonial action without fair consideration;

(19) the loss of health insurance benefits upon dissolution of the marriage, and the availability and cost of medical insurance for the parties; and

(20) any other factor which the court shall expressly find to be just and proper] SHALL MAKE ITS AWARD FOR POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBDIVISION.

b. [In any decision made pursuant to this subdivision, the court shall set forth the factors it considered and the reasons for its decision and such may not be waived by either party or counsel.

c. The court may award permanent maintenance, but an award of maintenance shall terminate upon the death of either party or upon the recipient's valid or invalid marriage, or upon modification pursuant to paragraph b of subdivision nine of this part or section two hundred forty-eight of this chapter.

d. In any decision made pursuant to this subdivision the court shall, where appropriate, consider the effect of a barrier to remarriage, as defined in subdivision six of section two hundred fifty-three of this article, on the factors enumerated in paragraph a of this subdivision.] FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBDIVISION, THE FOLLOWING DEFINITIONS SHALL BE USED:

(1) "PAYOR" SHALL MEAN THE SPOUSE WITH THE HIGHER INCOME.

(2) "PAYEE" SHALL MEAN THE SPOUSE WITH THE LOWER INCOME.

(3) "INCOME" SHALL MEAN:

(A) INCOME AS DEFINED IN THE CHILD SUPPORT STANDARDS ACT AND CODIFIED IN SECTION TWO HUNDRED FORTY OF THIS ARTICLE AND SECTION FOUR HUNDRED THIRTEEN OF THE FAMILY COURT ACT, EXCEPT THAT TEMPORARY MAINTENANCE PAID PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION FIVE-A OF THIS PART AND SPOUSAL SUPPORT PAID PURSUANT TO SECTION FOUR HUNDRED TWELVE OF THE FAMILY COURT ACT, SHALL NOT BE DEDUCTED FROM PAYOR'S INCOME; AND

(B) INCOME FROM INCOME-PRODUCING PROPERTY DISTRIBUTED OR TO BE DISTRIBUTED PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION FIVE OF THIS PART.

(4) "INCOME CAP" SHALL MEAN UP TO AND INCLUDING THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS OF THE PAYOR'S ANNUAL INCOME; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, BEGINNING JANUARY THIRTY-FIRST, TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN AND EVERY TWO YEARS THEREAFTER, THE INCOME CAP AMOUNT SHALL INCREASE BY THE SUM OF THE AVERAGE ANNUAL PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR ALL URBAN CONSUMERS (CPI-U) AS PUBLISHED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS FOR THE PRIOR TWO YEARS MULTIPLIED BY THE CURRENT PAYOR'S ANNUAL INCOME AMOUNT AND THEN ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS. THE OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION SHALL DETERMINE AND PUBLISH THE INCOME CAP.

(5) "GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE" SHALL MEAN THE DOLLAR AMOUNT DERIVED BY THE APPLICATION OF PARAGRAPH C OR D OF THIS SUBDIVISION.

(6) "GUIDELINE DURATION OF POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE" SHALL MEAN THE DURATIONAL PERIOD DETERMINED BY THE APPLICATION OF PARAGRAPH E OF THIS SUBDIVISION.

(7) "POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE GUIDELINE OBLIGATION" SHALL MEAN THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE AND THE GUIDELINE DURATION OF POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE.

(8) "LENGTH OF MARRIAGE" SHALL MEAN THE PERIOD FROM THE DATE OF MARRIAGE UNTIL THE DATE OF COMMENCEMENT OF ACTION.

(9) "SELF-SUPPORT RESERVE" SHALL MEAN THE SELF-SUPPORT RESERVE AS DEFINED IN THE CHILD SUPPORT STANDARDS ACT AND CODIFIED IN SECTION TWO HUNDRED FORTY OF THIS ARTICLE AND SECTION FOUR HUNDRED THIRTEEN OF THE FAMILY COURT ACT.

C. WHERE THE PAYOR'S INCOME IS LOWER THAN OR EQUAL TO THE INCOME CAP, THE COURT SHALL DETERMINE THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE AS FOLLOWS:

(1) THE COURT SHALL SUBTRACT TWENTY PERCENT OF THE PAYEE'S INCOME FROM THIRTY PERCENT OF THE PAYOR'S INCOME.

(2) THE COURT SHALL THEN MULTIPLY THE SUM OF THE PAYOR'S INCOME AND THE PAYEE'S INCOME BY FORTY PERCENT.

(3) THE COURT SHALL SUBTRACT THE PAYEE'S INCOME FROM THE AMOUNT DERIVED FROM SUBPARAGRAPH TWO OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

(4) THE COURT SHALL DETERMINE THE LOWER OF AMOUNTS DERIVED BY SUBPARAGRAPHS ONE AND THREE OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

(5) THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE SHALL BE THE AMOUNT DETERMINED BY SUBPARAGRAPH FOUR OF THIS PARAGRAPH EXCEPT THAT, IF THE AMOUNT DETERMINED BY SUBPARAGRAPH FOUR OF THIS PARAGRAPH IS LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO ZERO, THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE SHALL BE ZERO DOLLARS.

(6) NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBDIVISION, WHERE THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE WOULD REDUCE THE PAYOR'S INCOME BELOW THE SELF-SUPPORT RESERVE FOR A SINGLE PERSON, THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE SHALL BE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE PAYOR'S INCOME AND THE SELF-SUPPORT RESERVE. IF THE PAYOR'S INCOME IS BELOW THE SELF-SUPPORT RESERVE, THERE IS A REBUTTABLE PRESUMPTION THAT NO POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE IS AWARDED.

D. WHERE THE PAYOR'S INCOME EXCEEDS THE INCOME CAP, THE COURT SHALL DETERMINE THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE AS FOLLOWS:

(1) THE COURT SHALL PERFORM THE CALCULATIONS SET FORTH IN SUBPARAGRAPHS ONE THROUGH FOUR OF PARAGRAPH C OF THIS SUBDIVISION FOR THE TOTAL INCOMES OF PAYOR AND PAYEE.

(2) THE COURT SHALL PERFORM THE CALCULATIONS SET FORTH IN SUBPARAGRAPHS ONE THROUGH FOUR OF PARAGRAPH C OF THIS SUBDIVISION FOR THE INCOME OF PAYOR UP TO AND INCLUDING THE INCOME CAP AND FOR THE INCOME OF PAYEE.

(3) THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE SHALL BE EITHER:

(A) THE CALCULATION DERIVED FROM SUBPARAGRAPH ONE OF THIS PARAGRAPH; OR

(B) THE AMOUNT DERIVED FROM SUBPARAGRAPH TWO OF THIS PARAGRAPH PLUS AN AMOUNT THAT THE COURT SHALL DETERMINE BY CONSIDERATION OF THE FACTORS SET FORTH IN SUBPARAGRAPH ONE OF PARAGRAPH F OF THIS SUBDIVISION.

(4) IN ANY DECISION MADE PURSUANT TO CLAUSE (B) OF SUBPARAGRAPH THREE OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE COURT SHALL SET FORTH THE FACTORS IT CONSIDERED AND THE REASONS FOR ITS DECISION IN WRITING. SUCH WRITTEN DECISION MAY NOT BE WAIVED BY EITHER PARTY OR COUNSEL.

E. THE GUIDELINE DURATION OF POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE SHALL BE DETERMINED AS FOLLOWS:

(1) THE COURT SHALL DETERMINE THE GUIDELINE DURATION OF POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE:

LENGTH OF THE MARRIAGE	PERCENT OF THE LENGTH
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OF THE MARRIAGE FOR WHICH  
MAINTENANCE WILL BE PAYABLE

0 UP TO AND INCLUDING 5 YEARS	30%
MORE THAN 5, UP TO AND INCLUDING 7.5 YEARS	40%
MORE THAN 7.5, UP TO AND INCLUDING 10 YEARS	50%
MORE THAN 10, UP TO AND INCLUDING 12.5 YEARS	60%
MORE THAN 12.5, UP TO AND INCLUDING 15 YEARS	70%
MORE THAN 15, UP TO AND INCLUDING 17.5 YEARS	80%
MORE THAN 17.5, UP TO AND INCLUDING 20 YEARS	90%
MORE THAN 20, UP TO AND INCLUDING 25 YEARS	100%
MORE THAN 25 YEARS	

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(2) NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF SUBPARAGRAPH ONE OF THIS PARAGRAPH, POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE SHALL TERMINATE UPON THE DEATH OF THE PAYOR OR PAYEE OR UPON THE PAYEE'S VALID OR INVALID MARRIAGE.

F. (1) THE COURT SHALL ORDER THE POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE GUIDELINE OBLIGATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPHS C, D AND E OF THIS SUBDIVISION, UNLESS THE COURT FINDS THAT THE POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE GUIDELINE OBLIGATION IS UNJUST OR INAPPROPRIATE AND ADJUSTS THE POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE GUIDELINE OBLIGATION ACCORDINGLY BASED UPON CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING FACTORS:

(A) THE AGE AND HEALTH OF THE PARTIES;

(B) THE PRESENT OR FUTURE EARNING CAPACITY OF THE PARTIES, INCLUDING THE HISTORY OF LIMITED PARTICIPATION IN THE WORKFORCE;

(C) THE NEED OF ONE PARTY TO INCUR EDUCATION OR TRAINING EXPENSES;

(D) THE WASTEFUL DISSIPATION OF MARITAL PROPERTY, INCLUDING TRANSFERS OR ENCUMBRANCES MADE IN CONTEMPLATION OF A MATRIMONIAL ACTION WITHOUT FAIR CONSIDERATION;

(E) THE EXISTENCE AND DURATION OF A PRE-MARITAL JOINT HOUSEHOLD OR A PRE-DIVORCE SEPARATE HOUSEHOLD;

(F) ACTS BY ONE PARTY AGAINST ANOTHER THAT HAVE INHIBITED OR CONTINUE TO INHIBIT A PARTY'S EARNING CAPACITY OR ABILITY TO OBTAIN MEANINGFUL EMPLOYMENT. SUCH ACTS INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO ACTS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AS PROVIDED IN SECTION FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY-NINE-A OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES LAW;

(G) THE AVAILABILITY AND COST OF MEDICAL INSURANCE FOR THE PARTIES;

(H) THE CARE OF CHILDREN OR STEPCHILDREN, DISABLED ADULT CHILDREN OR STEPCHILDREN, ELDERLY PARENTS OR IN-LAWS PROVIDED DURING THE MARRIAGE THAT INHIBITS A PARTY'S EARNING CAPACITY;

(I) THE NEED TO PAY FOR EXCEPTIONAL ADDITIONAL EXPENSES FOR THE CHILD OR CHILDREN NOT ALREADY CONSIDERED IN DETERMINING CHILD SUPPORT PURSUANT TO THE CHILD SUPPORT STANDARDS ACT, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, SCHOOLING, DAY CARE AND MEDICAL TREATMENT;

(J) THE TAX CONSEQUENCES TO EACH PARTY;

(K) THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF THE PARTIES ESTABLISHED DURING THE MARRIAGE;

(L) THE REDUCED OR LOST EARNING CAPACITY OF THE PAYEE AS A RESULT OF HAVING FOREGONE OR DELAYED EDUCATION, TRAINING, EMPLOYMENT OR CAREER OPPORTUNITIES DURING THE MARRIAGE;

(M) THE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF MARITAL PROPERTY;

(N) THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND SERVICES OF THE PAYEE AS A SPOUSE, PARENT, WAGE EARNER AND HOMEMAKER AND TO THE CAREER OR CAREER POTENTIAL OF THE OTHER PARTY; AND

(O) ANY OTHER FACTOR WHICH THE COURT SHALL EXPRESSLY FIND TO BE JUST AND PROPER.

(2) WHERE THE COURT FINDS THAT THE POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE GUIDELINE OBLIGATION IS UNJUST OR INAPPROPRIATE AND THE COURT ADJUSTS THE POST-DI-

VORCE MAINTENANCE GUIDELINE OBLIGATION PURSUANT TO THIS PARAGRAPH, THE COURT SHALL SET FORTH, IN A WRITTEN DECISION, THE UNADJUSTED POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE GUIDELINE OBLIGATION, THE FACTORS IT CONSIDERED, AND THE REASONS THAT THE COURT ADJUSTED THE POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE OBLIGATION. SUCH WRITTEN DECISION SHALL NOT BE WAIVED BY EITHER PARTY OR COUNSEL.

G. WHERE EITHER OR BOTH PARTIES ARE UNREPRESENTED, THE COURT SHALL NOT ENTER A MAINTENANCE ORDER OR JUDGMENT UNLESS THE COURT INFORMS THE UNREPRESENTED PARTY OR PARTIES OF THE POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE GUIDELINE OBLIGATION.

H. A VALIDLY EXECUTED AGREEMENT OR STIPULATION VOLUNTARILY ENTERED INTO BETWEEN THE PARTIES IN AN ACTION COMMENCED AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE CHAPTER OF THE LAWS OF TWO THOUSAND FOURTEEN WHICH AMENDED THIS SUBDIVISION PRESENTED TO THE COURT FOR INCORPORATION IN AN ORDER OR JUDGMENT SHALL INCLUDE A PROVISION STATING THAT THE PARTIES HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBDIVISION, AND THAT THE POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE GUIDELINE OBLIGATION PROVIDED FOR THEREIN WOULD PRESUMPTIVELY RESULT IN THE CORRECT AMOUNT OF POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE. IN THE EVENT THAT SUCH AGREEMENT OR STIPULATION DEVIATES FROM THE POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE GUIDELINE OBLIGATION, THE AGREEMENT OR STIPULATION MUST SPECIFY THE AMOUNT THAT SUCH POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE GUIDELINE OBLIGATION WOULD HAVE BEEN AND THE REASON OR REASONS THAT SUCH AGREEMENT OR STIPULATION DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR PAYMENT OF THAT AMOUNT. SUCH PROVISION MAY NOT BE WAIVED BY EITHER PARTY OR COUNSEL. NOTHING CONTAINED IN THIS SUBDIVISION SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO ALTER THE RIGHTS OF THE PARTIES TO VOLUNTARILY ENTER INTO VALIDLY EXECUTED AGREEMENTS OR STIPULATIONS WHICH DEVIATE FROM THE POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE GUIDELINE OBLIGATION PROVIDED SUCH AGREEMENTS OR STIPULATIONS COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBDIVISION. ANY COURT ORDER INCORPORATING A VALIDLY EXECUTED AGREEMENT OR STIPULATION WHICH DEVIATES FROM THE POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE GUIDELINE OBLIGATION SHALL SET FORTH THE COURT'S REASONS FOR SUCH DEVIATION.

I. WHEN A PARTY HAS DEFAULTED AND/OR THE COURT IS OTHERWISE PRESENTED WITH INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO DETERMINE INCOME, THE COURT SHALL ORDER THE POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE BASED UPON THE NEEDS OF THE PAYEE OR THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF THE PARTIES PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF THE DIVORCE ACTION, WHICHEVER IS GREATER. SUCH ORDER MAY BE RETROACTIVELY MODIFIED UPWARD WITHOUT A SHOWING OF CHANGE IN CIRCUMSTANCES UPON A SHOWING OF NEWLY DISCOVERED OR OBTAINED EVIDENCE.

J. POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE MAY BE MODIFIED PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH B OF SUBDIVISION NINE OF THIS PART.

K. IN ANY ACTION OR PROCEEDING FOR MODIFICATION OF AN ORDER OF MAINTENANCE OR ALIMONY EXISTING PRIOR TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE CHAPTER OF THE LAWS OF TWO THOUSAND FOURTEEN WHICH AMENDED THIS SUBDIVISION, BROUGHT PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE, THE GUIDELINES FOR POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE SET FORTH IN THIS SUBDIVISION SHALL NOT CONSTITUTE A CHANGE OF CIRCUMSTANCES WARRANTING MODIFICATION OF SUCH SUPPORT ORDER.

L. IN ANY ACTION OR PROCEEDING FOR MODIFICATION OF AN ORDER OF MAINTENANCE OR ALIMONY EXISTING PRIOR TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE CHAPTER OF THE LAWS OF TWO THOUSAND FOURTEEN WHICH AMENDED THIS SUBDIVISION, BROUGHT PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE, THE GUIDELINES FOR POST-DIVORCE MAINTENANCE SET FORTH IN PARAGRAPHS C, D AND E OF THIS SUBDIVISION SHALL APPLY.

M. IN ANY DECISION MADE PURSUANT TO THIS SUBDIVISION THE COURT SHALL, WHERE APPROPRIATE, CONSIDER THE EFFECT OF A BARRIER TO REMARRIAGE, AS DEFINED IN SUBDIVISION SIX OF SECTION TWO HUNDRED FIFTY-THREE OF THIS ARTICLE, ON THE FACTORS ENUMERATED IN PARAGRAPH F OF THIS SUBDIVISION.

1 S 3. Subparagraph 1 of paragraph b of subdivision 9 of part B of  
2 section 236 of the domestic relations law, as amended by chapter 182 of  
3 the laws of 2010, is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) Upon application by either party, the court may annul or modify  
5 any prior order or judgment as to maintenance, upon a showing of the  
6 [recipient's] PAYEE'S inability to be self-supporting or a substantial  
7 change in circumstance or termination of child support awarded pursuant  
8 to section two hundred forty of this article, including financial hard-  
9 ship. Where, after the effective date of this part, a separation agree-  
10 ment remains in force no modification of a prior order or judgment  
11 incorporating the terms of said agreement shall be made as to mainte-  
12 nance without a showing of extreme hardship on either party, in which  
13 event the judgment or order as modified shall supersede the terms of the  
14 prior agreement and judgment for such period of time and under such  
15 circumstances as the court determines. The court shall not reduce or  
16 annul any arrears of maintenance which have been reduced to final judg-  
17 ment pursuant to section two hundred forty-four of this article. No  
18 other arrears of maintenance which have accrued prior to the making of  
19 such application shall be subject to modification or annulment unless  
20 the defaulting party shows good cause for failure to make application  
21 for relief from the judgment or order directing such payment prior to  
22 the accrual of such arrears and the facts and circumstances constituting  
23 good cause are set forth in a written memorandum of decision. Such  
24 modification may increase maintenance nunc pro tunc as of the date of  
25 application based on newly discovered evidence. Any retroactive amount  
26 of maintenance due shall, except as provided for herein, be paid in one  
27 sum or periodic sums, as the court directs, taking into account any  
28 temporary or partial payments which have been made. The provisions of  
29 this subdivision shall not apply to a separation agreement made prior to  
30 the effective date of this part.

31 S 4. Section 412 of the family court act, as amended by chapter 281 of  
32 the laws of 1980, is amended to read as follows:

33 S 412. Married person's duty to support spouse. 1. A married person is  
34 chargeable with the support of his or her spouse and, [if possessed of  
35 sufficient means or able to earn such means, may be required to pay for  
36 his or her support a fair and reasonable sum, as the court may deter-  
37 mine, having due regard to the circumstances of the respective parties.]  
38 EXCEPT WHERE THE PARTIES HAVE ENTERED INTO AN AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO  
39 SECTION FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE OF THIS ARTICLE PROVIDING FOR SUPPORT,  
40 THE COURT SHALL MAKE ITS AWARD FOR SPOUSAL SUPPORT PURSUANT TO THE  
41 PROVISIONS OF THIS PART.

42 2. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING DEFINITIONS SHALL BE  
43 USED:

- 44 (A) "PAYOR" SHALL MEAN THE SPOUSE WITH THE HIGHER INCOME.  
45 (B) "PAYEE" SHALL MEAN THE SPOUSE WITH THE LOWER INCOME.  
46 (C) "INCOME" SHALL MEAN INCOME AS DEFINED IN THE CHILD SUPPORT STAND-  
47 ARDS ACT AND CODIFIED IN SECTION TWO HUNDRED FORTY OF THE DOMESTIC  
48 RELATIONS LAW AND SECTION FOUR HUNDRED THIRTEEN OF THIS PART.  
49 (D) "INCOME CAP" SHALL MEAN UP TO AND INCLUDING THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND  
50 DOLLARS OF THE PAYOR'S ANNUAL INCOME; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, BEGINNING JANU-  
51 ARY THIRTY-FIRST, TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN AND EVERY TWO YEARS THEREAFTER,  
52 THE INCOME CAP AMOUNT SHALL INCREASE BY THE SUM OF THE AVERAGE ANNUAL  
53 PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR ALL URBAN CONSUMERS  
54 (CPI-U) AS PUBLISHED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR BUREAU OF  
55 LABOR STATISTICS FOR THE PRIOR TWO YEARS MULTIPLIED BY THE CURRENT  
56 PAYOR'S ANNUAL INCOME AMOUNT AND THEN ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST ONE THOU-

1 SAND DOLLARS. THE OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION SHALL DETERMINE AND  
2 PUBLISH THE INCOME CAP.

3 (E) "GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF SPOUSAL SUPPORT" SHALL MEAN THE SUM DERIVED  
4 BY THE APPLICATION OF SUBDIVISION THREE OR FOUR OF THIS SECTION.

5 (F) "SELF-SUPPORT RESERVE" SHALL MEAN THE SELF-SUPPORT RESERVE AS  
6 DEFINED IN THE CHILD SUPPORT STANDARDS ACT AND CODIFIED IN SECTION TWO  
7 HUNDRED FORTY OF THE DOMESTIC RELATIONS LAW AND SECTION FOUR HUNDRED  
8 THIRTEEN OF THIS PART.

9 3. WHERE THE PAYOR'S INCOME IS LOWER THAN OR EQUAL TO THE INCOME CAP,  
10 THE COURT SHALL DETERMINE THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF SPOUSAL SUPPORT AS  
11 FOLLOWS:

12 (A) THE COURT SHALL SUBTRACT TWENTY PERCENT OF THE PAYEE'S INCOME FROM  
13 THIRTY PERCENT OF THE PAYOR'S INCOME.

14 (B) THE COURT SHALL THEN MULTIPLY THE SUM OF THE PAYOR'S INCOME AND  
15 THE PAYEE'S INCOME BY FORTY PERCENT.

16 (C) THE COURT SHALL SUBTRACT THE PAYEE'S INCOME FROM THE AMOUNT  
17 DERIVED FROM PARAGRAPH (B) OF THIS SUBDIVISION.

18 (D) THE COURT SHALL DETERMINE THE LOWER OF AMOUNTS DERIVED BY PARA-  
19 GRAPHS (A) AND (C) OF THIS SUBDIVISION.

20 (E) THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF SPOUSAL SUPPORT SHALL BE THE AMOUNT DETER-  
21 MINED BY PARAGRAPH (D) OF THIS SUBDIVISION EXCEPT THAT, IF THE AMOUNT  
22 DETERMINED BY PARAGRAPH (D) OF THIS SUBDIVISION IS LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO  
23 ZERO, THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF SPOUSAL SUPPORT SHALL BE ZERO DOLLARS.

24 4. WHERE THE PAYOR'S INCOME EXCEEDS THE INCOME CAP, THE COURT SHALL  
25 DETERMINE THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF SPOUSAL SUPPORT AS FOLLOWS:

26 (A) THE COURT SHALL PERFORM THE CALCULATIONS SET FORTH IN PARAGRAPHS  
27 (A) THROUGH (D) OF SUBDIVISION THREE OF THIS SECTION FOR THE TOTAL  
28 INCOMES OF PAYOR AND PAYEE.

29 (B) THE COURT SHALL PERFORM THE CALCULATIONS SET FORTH IN PARAGRAPHS  
30 (A) THROUGH (D) OF SUBDIVISION THREE OF THIS SECTION FOR THE INCOME OF  
31 PAYOR UP TO AND INCLUDING THE INCOME CAP AND FOR THE INCOME OF PAYEE.

32 (C) THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF SPOUSAL SUPPORT SHALL BE EITHER:

33 (1) THE CALCULATION DERIVED FROM PARAGRAPH (A) OF THIS SUBDIVISION; OR

34 (2) THE AMOUNT DERIVED FROM PARAGRAPH (B) OF THIS SUBDIVISION PLUS AN  
35 AMOUNT THAT THE COURT SHALL DETERMINE BY CONSIDERATION OF THE FACTORS  
36 SET FORTH IN PARAGRAPH (A) OF SUBDIVISION SIX OF THIS SECTION.

37 (D) IN ANY DECISION MADE PURSUANT TO SUBPARAGRAPH TWO OF PARAGRAPH (C)  
38 OF THIS SUBDIVISION, THE COURT SHALL SET FORTH THE FACTORS IT CONSIDERED  
39 AND THE REASONS FOR ITS DECISION IN WRITING. SUCH WRITTEN DECISION MAY  
40 NOT BE WAIVED BY EITHER PARTY OR COUNSEL.

41 5. NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION, WHERE THE GUIDELINE  
42 AMOUNT OF SPOUSAL SUPPORT WOULD REDUCE THE PAYOR'S INCOME BELOW THE  
43 SELF-SUPPORT RESERVE FOR A SINGLE PERSON, THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF SPOUS-  
44 AL SUPPORT SHALL BE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE PAYOR'S INCOME AND THE  
45 SELF-SUPPORT RESERVE. IF THE PAYOR'S INCOME IS BELOW THE SELF-SUPPORT  
46 RESERVE, THERE IS A REBUTTABLE PRESUMPTION THAT NO SPOUSAL SUPPORT IS  
47 AWARDED.

48 6. (A) THE COURT SHALL ORDER THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF SPOUSAL SUPPORT  
49 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBDIVISIONS THREE AND FOUR OF THIS SECTION, UNLESS  
50 THE COURT FINDS THAT THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF SPOUSAL SUPPORT IS UNJUST  
51 OR INAPPROPRIATE AND ADJUSTS THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF SPOUSAL SUPPORT  
52 ACCORDINGLY BASED UPON CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING FACTORS:

53 (1) THE AGE AND HEALTH OF THE PARTIES;

54 (2) THE PRESENT OR FUTURE EARNING CAPACITY OF THE PARTIES, INCLUDING  
55 THE HISTORY OF LIMITED PARTICIPATION IN THE WORKFORCE;

56 (3) THE NEED OF ONE PARTY TO INCUR EDUCATION OR TRAINING EXPENSES;

1 (4) THE WASTEFUL DISSIPATION OF MARITAL PROPERTY, INCLUDING TRANSFERS  
2 OR ENCUMBRANCES MADE IN CONTEMPLATION OF A SUPPORT PROCEEDING WITHOUT  
3 FAIR CONSIDERATION;

4 (5) THE EXISTENCE AND DURATION OF A PRE-MARITAL JOINT HOUSEHOLD OR A  
5 PRE-SUPPORT PROCEEDINGS SEPARATE HOUSEHOLD;

6 (6) ACTS BY ONE PARTY AGAINST ANOTHER THAT HAVE INHIBITED OR CONTINUE  
7 TO INHIBIT A PARTY'S EARNING CAPACITY OR ABILITY TO OBTAIN MEANINGFUL  
8 EMPLOYMENT. SUCH ACTS INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO ACTS OF DOMESTIC  
9 VIOLENCE AS PROVIDED IN SECTION FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY-NINE-A OF THE SOCIAL  
10 SERVICES LAW;

11 (7) THE AVAILABILITY AND COST OF MEDICAL INSURANCE FOR THE PARTIES;

12 (8) THE CARE OF CHILDREN OR STEPCHILDREN, DISABLED ADULT CHILDREN OR  
13 STEPCHILDREN, ELDERLY PARENTS OR IN-LAWS PROVIDED DURING THE MARRIAGE  
14 THAT INHIBITS A PARTY'S EARNING CAPACITY;

15 (9) THE NEED TO PAY FOR EXCEPTIONAL ADDITIONAL EXPENSES FOR THE CHILD  
16 OR CHILDREN NOT ALREADY CONSIDERED IN DETERMINING CHILD SUPPORT PURSUANT  
17 TO THE CHILD SUPPORT STANDARDS ACT, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO,  
18 SCHOOLING, DAY CARE AND MEDICAL TREATMENT;

19 (10) THE TAX CONSEQUENCES TO EACH PARTY;

20 (11) THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF THE PARTIES ESTABLISHED DURING THE  
21 MARRIAGE;

22 (12) THE REDUCED OR LOST EARNING CAPACITY OF THE PAYEE AS A RESULT OF  
23 HAVING FOREGONE OR DELAYED EDUCATION, TRAINING, EMPLOYMENT OR CAREER  
24 OPPORTUNITIES DURING THE MARRIAGE;

25 (13) THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND SERVICES OF THE PAYEE AS A SPOUSE, PARENT,  
26 WAGE EARNER AND HOMEMAKER AND TO THE CAREER OR CAREER POTENTIAL OF THE  
27 OTHER PARTY; AND

28 (14) ANY OTHER FACTOR WHICH THE COURT SHALL EXPRESSLY FIND TO BE JUST  
29 AND PROPER.

30 (B) WHERE THE COURT FINDS THAT THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF SPOUSAL SUPPORT  
31 IS UNJUST OR INAPPROPRIATE AND THE COURT ADJUSTS THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF  
32 SPOUSAL SUPPORT PURSUANT TO THIS SUBDIVISION, THE COURT SHALL SET FORTH,  
33 IN A WRITTEN DECISION, THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF SPOUSAL SUPPORT, THE  
34 FACTORS IT CONSIDERED, AND THE REASONS THAT THE COURT ADJUSTED THE  
35 GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF SPOUSAL SUPPORT. SUCH WRITTEN DECISION SHALL NOT BE  
36 WAIVED BY EITHER PARTY OR COUNSEL.

37 (C) WHERE EITHER OR BOTH PARTIES ARE UNREPRESENTED, THE COURT SHALL  
38 NOT ENTER A SPOUSAL SUPPORT ORDER UNLESS THE COURT INFORMS THE UNREPRE-  
39 SENTED PARTY OR PARTIES OF THE GUIDELINE AMOUNT OF SPOUSAL SUPPORT.

40 7. WHEN A PARTY HAS DEFAULTED AND/OR THE COURT IS OTHERWISE PRESENTED  
41 WITH INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO DETERMINE INCOME, THE COURT SHALL ORDER  
42 THE SPOUSAL SUPPORT AWARD BASED UPON THE NEEDS OF THE PAYEE OR THE STAN-  
43 DARD OF LIVING OF THE PARTIES PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF THE SPOUSAL  
44 SUPPORT PROCEEDING, WHICHEVER IS GREATER. SUCH ORDER MAY BE RETROAC-  
45 TIVELY MODIFIED UPWARD WITHOUT A SHOWING OF CHANGE IN CIRCUMSTANCES UPON  
46 A SHOWING OF NEWLY DISCOVERED OR OBTAINED EVIDENCE.

47 8. IN ANY ACTION OR PROCEEDING FOR MODIFICATION OF AN ORDER OF SPOUSAL  
48 SUPPORT EXISTING PRIOR TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE CHAPTER OF THE LAWS  
49 OF TWO THOUSAND FOURTEEN WHICH AMENDED THIS SECTION, BROUGHT PURSUANT TO  
50 THIS ARTICLE, THE SPOUSAL SUPPORT GUIDELINES SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION  
51 SHALL NOT CONSTITUTE A CHANGE OF CIRCUMSTANCES WARRANTING MODIFICATION  
52 OF SUCH SPOUSAL SUPPORT ORDER.

53 S 5. Paragraph a of subdivision 1 of part B of section 236 of the  
54 domestic relations law, as amended by chapter 371 of the laws of 2010,  
55 is amended to read as follows:

1 a. The term "maintenance" shall mean payments provided for in a valid  
2 agreement between the parties or awarded by the court in accordance with  
3 the provisions of subdivisions five-a and six of this part, to be paid  
4 at fixed intervals for a definite or indefinite period of time, but an  
5 award of maintenance shall terminate upon the death of either party or  
6 upon the [recipient's] PAYEE'S valid or invalid marriage, or upon  
7 modification pursuant to paragraph (b) of subdivision nine of [section  
8 two hundred thirty-six of] this part or section two hundred forty-eight  
9 of this chapter.

10 S 6. Subparagraph 7 of paragraph d of subdivision 5 of part B of  
11 section 236 of the domestic relations law, as amended by chapter 281 of  
12 the laws of 1980 and as renumbered by chapter 229 of the laws of 2009,  
13 is amended to read as follows:

14 (7) any equitable claim to, interest in, or direct or indirect  
15 contribution made to the acquisition of such marital property by the  
16 party not having title, including joint efforts or expenditures and  
17 contributions and services as a spouse, parent, wage earner and homemak-  
18 er, and to the career or career potential of the other party. THE COURT  
19 SHALL NOT CONSIDER AS MARITAL PROPERTY SUBJECT TO DISTRIBUTION THE VALUE  
20 OF A SPOUSE'S ENHANCED EARNING CAPACITY ARISING FROM A LICENSE, DEGREE,  
21 CELEBRITY GOODWILL, OR CAREER ENHANCEMENT. HOWEVER, IN ARRIVING AT AN  
22 EQUITABLE DIVISION OF MARITAL PROPERTY, THE COURT SHALL CONSIDER THE  
23 DIRECT OR INDIRECT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DEVELOPMENT DURING THE MARRIAGE  
24 OF THE ENHANCED EARNING CAPACITY OF THE OTHER SPOUSE;

25 S 7. Section 248 of the domestic relations law, as amended by chapter  
26 604 of the laws of 1975, is amended to read as follows:

27 S 248. Modification of judgment or order in action for divorce or  
28 annulment. Where an action for divorce or for annulment or for a decla-  
29 ration of the nullity of a void marriage is brought by a husband or  
30 wife, and a final judgment of divorce or a final judgment annulling the  
31 marriage or declaring its nullity has been rendered, the court, by order  
32 upon the application of the [husband] PAYOR on notice, and on proof of  
33 the marriage of the [wife] PAYEE after such final judgment, must modify  
34 such final judgment and any orders made with respect thereto by annull-  
35 ing the provisions of such final judgment or orders, or of both, direct-  
36 ing payments of money for the support of the [wife] PAYEE. The court in  
37 its discretion upon application of the [husband] PAYOR on notice, upon  
38 proof that the [wife] PAYEE is habitually living with another [man]  
39 PERSON and holding HIMSELF OR herself out as [his wife] THE SPOUSE OF  
40 SUCH OTHER PERSON, although not married to such [man] OTHER PERSON, may  
41 modify such final judgment and any orders made with respect thereto by  
42 annulling the provisions of such final judgment or orders or of both,  
43 directing payment of money for the support of such [wife] PAYEE.

44 S 8. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall  
45 have become a law.