

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 53rd Legislature (2012)

3 SENATE BILL 1887

By: Russell

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to dissolution of marriage; amending  
8 43 O.S. 2011, Sections 121 and 134, which relate to  
9 the division of property and alimony; modifying  
10 certain military retainer pay division  
11 determinations; providing methods for the calculation  
12 of asset divisions; relocating provisions related to  
13 the division of certain military benefits; and  
14 providing an effective date.

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

16 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 43 O.S. 2011, Section 121, is  
17 amended to read as follows:

18 Section 121. A. When a ~~divorce~~ dissolution of marriage is  
19 granted, the decree shall restore:

20 1. To the wife her maiden or former name, if her name was  
21 changed as a result of the marriage and if she so desires;

22 2. To the husband his former name, if his name was changed as a  
23 result of the marriage and if he so desires.

24 B. The court shall enter its decree confirming in each spouse  
the property owned by him or her before marriage and the undisposed-  
of property acquired after marriage by him or her in his or her own

1 right. Either spouse may be allowed such alimony out of real and  
2 personal property of the other as the court shall think reasonable,  
3 having due regard to the value of such property at the time of the  
4 ~~divorce~~ dissolution of marriage. Alimony may be allowed from real  
5 or personal property, or both, or in the form of money judgment,  
6 payable either in gross or in installments, as the court may deem  
7 just and equitable. As to such property, whether real or personal,  
8 which has been acquired by the parties jointly during their  
9 marriage, whether the title thereto be in either or both of said  
10 parties, the court shall, subject to a valid antenuptial contract in  
11 writing, make such division between the parties as may appear just  
12 and reasonable, by a division of the property in kind, or by setting  
13 the same apart to one of the parties, and requiring the other  
14 thereof to be paid such sum as may be just and proper to effect a  
15 fair and just division thereof. The court may set apart a portion  
16 of the separate estate of a spouse to the other spouse for the  
17 support of the children of the marriage where custody resides with  
18 that spouse.

19 C. Pursuant to the federal Uniformed Services Former Spouses'  
20 Protection Act, 10 U.S.C., Section 1408, a court may treat  
21 disposable retired or retainer pay payable to a military member  
22 either as property solely of the member or as property of the member  
23 and the spouse of the member. If a state court determines that the  
24 disposable retired or retainer pay of a military member is marital

1 property, the court shall award an amount consistent with the rank,  
2 pay grade, and time of service of the member at the date of filing  
3 of the petition or granting of the decree of dissolution of  
4 marriage.

5 D. Unless otherwise agreed to by the parties, any division of  
6 an active duty military member's retirement or retainer pay shall  
7 use the following language:

8 "The former spouse is awarded a percentage of the member's  
9 disposable military retired pay, to be computed by multiplying fifty  
10 percent (50%) times a fraction, the numerator of which is x  
11 months of marriage during the member's creditable military service,  
12 divided by the member's total number of months of creditable  
13 military service."

14 E. In the case of a member's retiring from reserve duty, unless  
15 otherwise agreed by the parties, any division of a reservist's  
16 retirement or retainer pay shall use the following language:

17 "The former spouse is awarded a percentage of the member's  
18 disposable military retired pay, to be computed by multiplying fifty  
19 percent (50%) times a fraction, the numerator of which is  
20 x reserve retirement points earned during the period of the  
21 marriage, divided by the member's total number of reserve retirement  
22 points earned."

1        F. There shall be a two-year statute of limitations, beginning  
2 on the date of the final dissolution of marriage, for a party to  
3 apply for division of disposable retired or retainer pay.

4        SECTION 2.        AMENDATORY        43 O.S. 2011, Section 134, is  
5 amended to read as follows:

6        Section 134. A. In any ~~divorce~~ dissolution of marriage decree  
7 which provides for periodic alimony payments, the court shall  
8 plainly state, at the time of entering the original decree, the  
9 dollar amount of all or a portion of each payment which is  
10 designated as support and the dollar amount of all or a portion of  
11 the payment which is a payment pertaining to a division of property.  
12 The court shall specify in the decree that the payments pertaining  
13 to a division of property shall continue until completed. Payments  
14 pertaining to a division of property are irrevocable and not subject  
15 to subsequent modification by the court making the award. An order  
16 for the payment of money pursuant to a ~~divorce~~ dissolution of  
17 marriage decree, whether designated as support or designated as  
18 pertaining to a division of property shall not be a lien against the  
19 real property of the person ordered to make such payments unless the  
20 court order specifically provides for a lien on real property. An  
21 arrearage in payments of support reduced to a judgment may be a lien  
22 against the real property of the person ordered to make such  
23 payments.

1 B. The court shall also provide in the ~~divorce~~ dissolution of  
2 marriage decree that upon the death or remarriage of the recipient,  
3 the payments for support, if not already accrued, shall terminate.  
4 The court shall order the judgment for the payment of support to be  
5 terminated, and the lien released upon the presentation of proper  
6 proof of death of the recipient unless a proper claim is made for  
7 any amount of past-due support payments by an executor,  
8 administrator, or heir within ninety (90) days from the date of  
9 death of the recipient. Upon proper application the court shall  
10 order payment of support terminated and the lien discharged after  
11 remarriage of the recipient, unless the recipient can make a proper  
12 showing that some amount of support is still needed and that  
13 circumstances have not rendered payment of the same inequitable,  
14 provided the recipient commences an action for such determination,  
15 within ninety (90) days of the date of such remarriage. Any  
16 modification of alimony payments shall be effective upon the date of  
17 the filing of the requested modification.

18 C. The voluntary cohabitation of a former spouse with a member  
19 of the opposite sex shall be a ground to modify provisions of a  
20 final judgment or order for alimony as support. If voluntary  
21 cohabitation is alleged in a motion to modify the payment of  
22 support, the court shall have jurisdiction to reduce or terminate  
23 future support payments upon proof of substantial change of  
24 circumstances of either party to the divorce relating to need for

1 support or ability to support. As used in this subsection, the term  
2 cohabitation means the dwelling together continuously and habitually  
3 of a man and a woman who are in a private conjugal relationship not  
4 solemnized as a marriage according to law, or not necessarily  
5 meeting all the standards of a common-law marriage. The petitioner  
6 shall make application for modification and shall follow  
7 notification procedures used in other divorce decree modification  
8 actions. The court that entered the ~~divorce~~ dissolution of marriage  
9 decree shall have jurisdiction over the modification application.

10 D. Except as otherwise provided in subsection C of this  
11 section, the provisions of any ~~divorce~~ dissolution of marriage  
12 decree pertaining to the payment of alimony as support may be  
13 modified upon proof of changed circumstances relating to the need  
14 for support or ability to support which are substantial and  
15 continuing so as to make the terms of the decree unreasonable to  
16 either party. Modification by the court of any divorce decree  
17 pertaining to the payment of alimony as support, pursuant to the  
18 provisions of this subsection, may extend to the terms of the  
19 payments and to the total amount awarded; provided however, such  
20 modification shall only have prospective application.

21 ~~E. Pursuant to the federal Uniformed Services Former Spouses'~~  
22 ~~Protection Act, 10 U.S.C., Section 1408, a court may treat~~  
23 ~~disposable retired or retainer pay payable to a military member~~  
24 ~~either as property solely of the member or as property of the member~~

1 ~~and the spouse of the member. If a state court determines that the~~  
2 ~~disposable retired or retainer pay of a military member is marital~~  
3 ~~property, the court shall award an amount consistent with the rank,~~  
4 ~~pay grade, and time of service of the member at the time of~~  
5 ~~separation.~~

6 ~~F. The provisions of subsection D of this section shall have~~  
7 ~~retrospective and prospective application with regards to~~  
8 ~~modifications for the purpose of obtaining support or payments~~  
9 ~~pertaining to a division of property on divorce decrees which become~~  
10 ~~final after June 26, 1981. There shall be a two-year statute of~~  
11 ~~limitations, beginning on the date of the final divorce decree, for~~  
12 ~~a party to apply for division of disposable retired or retainer pay.~~

13 ~~G. The provisions of subsections C and D of this section shall~~  
14 ~~have retrospective and prospective application with regards to~~  
15 ~~modifications of the provisions of a final judgment or order for~~  
16 ~~alimony as support, or of a divorce decree pertaining to the payment~~  
17 ~~of alimony as support, regardless of the date that the order,~~  
18 ~~judgment, or decree was entered.~~

19 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2012.

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