Alimony Reform

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- 2nd wife Marsha Ihrig's husband sought reduced alimony in Dec 2015. Instead, the court said Marsha should pay as well, although her husband was not held to be underemployed. The court ruled it "has discretion to consider a party's new spouse's income in determining the party's alimony.

Alimony - "The payment of support from an e -spouse with the ability to pay to an e -spouse in ned, for a reasonable length of time."

Alimony Reform is Overdue in South Carolina

A National Movement

State after state across the nation has recognized the need for alimony reform. In South Carolina, the matter has been studied in detail over several years and much discussed in committee. The bills produced with the input of family court attorneys have been carefully crafted to leave judges discretion, while giving them more options. This will provide both parties an equitable path to move on after divorce.

Did You Know?

A.) Permanent Alimony is the most commonly awarded form of alimony in SC.

B.) South Carolinians married for as little as 2 years pay permanent alimony.

C.) The average alimony payment is around 1/3 of the payor's income; some pay 1/2.

D.) As a result, payors cannot retire and parents can't help pay for college.

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A.) Create public policy seeking equity for both parties. No one form of alimony preferred.
B.) Create transitional and fixed term alimony, giving judges more options.
C.) Focus on modifications; payors can seek a reduction or an end to alimony at retirement.
D.) Bar consideration of subsequent spouse's earnings.
.) eek an offset of alimony by the amount of social security income that the ex spouse is eligible to receive at full retirement age.

Please remember. . .

1. **The 2015 Joint Alimony Reform Task Force called for reform. As a result, these bills provide carefully weighed and balanced solutions.**
2. **Current alimony laws have not kept pace with the modern family unit. Proposed laws allow judges discretion to protect both stay-at- home spouses and working couples.**