SPONSOR: Swan

This bill modifies provisions related to maintenance a court may grant to either spouse by specifying that it can be bridge-the-gap, rehabilitative, or durational, based upon the length of the marriage.

The bill defines the duration of a marriage based upon the day of the marriage to the date of filing for divorce or legal separation. For purposes of determining maintenance, the duration of a marriage is defined as:

- 1) A short-term marriage, which has a duration of less than seven years and;
- 2) A moderate-term marriage, which has a duration of seven years but less than 17 years; or
- 3) A long-term marriage, which has a duration of 17 years or more.

This bill specifies that either party may be awarded bridge-the-gap maintenance when leaving a short-term marriage to allow the party to make a transition from being married to being single; rehabilitative maintenance when leaving a short-term, moderate-term, or long-term marriage to establish the capacity for self-support, as specified; or durational maintenance to provide for the reasonable needs of life as they were established during a short-term, moderate-term, or long-term marriage.

The bill sets time limits for how many years each type of maintenance may be granted.

This bill is similar to HCS HB 194 (2019).