

HCS HBs 1908 & 2337 -- JUDGMENT OF DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE OR
LEGAL SEPARATION

SPONSOR: Williams

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Children and Families by a vote of 16 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Administrative by a vote of 10 to 0.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HBs 1908 & 2337.

This bill prohibits pregnancy status from preventing the court from entering a judgment of dissolution of marriage or legal separation.

This bill is similar to HB 243 (2025).

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that exposure to domestic violence increases maternal mortality, developmental delays for the child, and other risks, with pregnancy itself being a risky time for a woman experiencing domestic violence. Pregnancy can often be a time when abuse escalates, and forcing a woman to remain legally bound to a person against her will strips away her dignity and safety.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Williams; Danielle Drake; Jessica Hill, Missouri Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence; National Assn of Social Workers-Mo Chapter; Kids Win Missouri; Rose Gattas, Avenues, Inc; Planned Parenthood Great Rivers Action; Abortion Action Missouri; and Arnie Dienoff.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony and witnesses testifying online can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.