

1 AN ACT relating to divorce.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 403.044 is amended to read as follows:

4 In divorce actions in which there are minor children who are the issue of the marriage, no  
5 testimony other than on temporary motions shall be taken or heard before **one (1) year**  
6 **has**~~[sixty (60) days have]~~ elapsed from the date of service of summons, the appointment  
7 of a warning order attorney or the filing of an entry of appearance, or a responsive  
8 pleading by the defendant, whichever occurs first.

9 ➔Section 2. KRS 403.140 is amended to read as follows:

10 (1) The Circuit Court shall enter a decree of dissolution of marriage if:

11 (a) The court finds that one (1) of the parties, at the time the action was  
12 commenced, resided in this state, or was stationed in this state while a  
13 member of the armed services, and that the residence or military presence has  
14 been maintained for 180 days next preceding the filing of the petition;

15 (b) The court finds that the conciliation provisions of KRS 403.170 either do not  
16 apply or have been met;

17 (c) The court finds that the marriage is irretrievably broken;

18 **(d) In divorce actions in which there are minor children who are the issue of**  
19 **the marriage, written proof is submitted to the court that both parents have**  
20 **completed a program of divorce and co-parenting which has been approved**  
21 **by the court for a minimum of four (4) hours. Upon motion by one (1) or**  
22 **both parties, the court may waive the requirement of this paragraph for just**  
23 **cause;** and

24 ~~(e)~~~~(d)~~ To the extent it has jurisdiction to do so, the court has considered,  
25 approved, or made provision for child custody, the support of any child of the  
26 marriage entitled to support, the maintenance of either spouse, and the  
27 disposition of property.

- 1 (2) If a party requests a decree of legal separation rather than a decree of dissolution of
- 2 marriage, the court shall grant the decree in that form unless the other party objects,
- 3 in which latter event the other provisions of this chapter shall apply.