



SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

Oregon State Legislature
State Capitol
Salem, OR

NEWS RELEASE

March 7, 2017

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Senate votes to smooth process for spousal support updates

SB 492 creates process outside of court hearings to adjust support amounts

SALEM – The Oregon Senate passed a bill today to provide an easier, less expensive option for divorcees to adjust spousal support without involving the courts.

Senate Bill 492 – which passed on a 16-13 vote on the Senate floor – provides an avenue for exchanging financial documents besides going back to court for a judgment modification after marital annulments, divorces or separations in which the court ordered spousal support. The bill requires the party requesting documents to provide their own documents to the other party as part of the request.

Requests can only be made once every two years, and the bill does not create a new support obligation. It is reserved for modifying existing spousal support orders. This process saves the participants time and money of going to court. It also reduces court caseload by providing an alternative method for resolving these issues.

“This bill will provide an option to update spousal support orders without having to pay the money and spend the time to go through court proceedings,” said Sen. Floyd Prozanski (D-Eugene), who carried the bill. “This bill only provides a means to update existing orders and does not provide a new means for requesting new spousal support.”

SB 492 now goes to the House of Representatives for consideration.

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