

## 2 Year Waiting Period For A Divorce!?!? (Maybe...)



He'll Nail Ya!...Dang it, He's Gus Petch!

You can count on some strange laws being proposed every election cycle and 2012 is no different. A law has been proposed in the Minnesota Senate last week to 1) allow **contested divorces** with minor children and 2) required a 2 year waiting period if their are kids.

If this law goes through it will a monumental change in the way divorce is handled in Minnesota. Currently, you only need to have lived in Minnesota for 6 months and claim an irretrievable breakdown of the marriage to be divorced. Or to put it another way, one party says "I want out".

The proposed law is, in my humble opinion, a throwback to a different era. I'm not saying it's a better or worse era, but it is a different era. With the divorce rate what it is today along with rising domestic abuse and all that entails it seems this may be a bill that causes more problems that it solves. I'm not sure making a husband live with a wife (or vice versa) for two years if one of them refuses to go to alcohol treatment is a smart idea.

What I am sure about is that this would would be great boon to private investigators, which are very rarely used in Minnesota divorces. Also, this would raise the **cost of a divorce** by an incredible amount. Off the cuff, I suspect dragging divorce cases out a minimum of 2 years and making us a "fault-divorce state" will easily double the average divorce cost.

So, with the only winners being Michael Massey and Gus Petch (the private investigation in a great **Coen Brothers** movie) the Governor and House may want to give considerable thought if this is a law which should be passed.

Thanks for reading my latest Mankato Family Law Blog post, any comments or questions feel free to post them below or email me directly at [Jkohlmeyer@rokolaw.com](mailto:Jkohlmeyer@rokolaw.com)

Jason Kohlmeyer  
Mankato, Minnesota  
507-625-5000  
[www.RoKoLaw.com](http://www.RoKoLaw.com)

Remember I am not giving anyone legal advice, this is just an informational blog that hopefully will answer some basic questions and lead you to call an experienced Minnesota Divorce Lawyer.

© 2012 RoKo Law, exp. Originally published in the [Mankato Law Blog](#).