

**Bill Summary**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 59<sup>th</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>SB 1958</b>
<b>Version:</b>	<b>INT</b>
<b>Request No.</b>	<b>3306</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Sen. Deevers</b>
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**Bill Analysis**

SB 1958 modifies the permissible grounds for divorce. The measure requires any divorce filed for abandonment to show habitual drunkenness, gross neglect of duty, or insanity for a period of 5 years. On grounds of insanity, the person must have been committed to a state institution for the insane and given a poor prognosis for recovery. A thorough examination must be conducted by 3 physicians prior to granting any divorce on grounds of insanity. The measure provides that 2 of the 3 physicians must certify the poor prognosis. In no case shall divorce be granted to any person whose husband or wife is an inmate of a state institution in another state unless the person applying for such divorce shall have been a resident of this state for at least 5 years. The measure strikes impotency as valid grounds for divorce. The measure modifies pregnancy grounds for divorce by requiring the wife to have been pregnant unbeknownst by the husband at the time or the husband to have impregnated another woman without the wife's knowledge at the time of marriage. The measure strikes language providing for incompatibility, gross neglect of duty, and imprisonment as valid grounds for divorce.

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