**South Carolina General Assembly**

124th Session, 2021-2022

**H. 5173**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. Gatch, Nutt, T. Moore, Bennett, B. Newton, Morgan, Murray, Bernstein and Davis

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Introduced in the House on March 29, 2022

Currently residing in the House Committee on **Judiciary**

Summary: Alimony

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

3/29/2022 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 70](file:///h:\hj\20220329.docx))

3/29/2022 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 70](file:///h:\hj\20220329.docx))

View the latest [legislative information](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=5173&session=124&summary=B) at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[3/29/2022](file:///p:\pprever\2021-22\5173_20220329.docx)

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 20‑3‑130, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE AWARD OF ALIMONY, SO AS TO ESTABLISH CERTAIN LIMITATIONS REGARDING THE AWARD OF ALIMONY.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 20‑3‑130 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding an appropriately lettered subsection at the end to read:

“( ) Notwithstanding another provision of law, alimony may be awarded only to the party who is earning lesser wages, and alimony awarded on a temporary or permanent basis may not exceed an annual amount equal to the difference between the higher wage earner’s annual wages and the lower wage earner’s annual wages multiplied by fifteen percent. Further, alimony payments may not be awarded for more months than the parties were married. However, if the court finds by clear and convincing evidence that the award of alimony pursuant to this formula is inequitable, the court may allow a deviation, including upward modification in amount and duration and an award to the higher earning spouse.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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