

addition to that, there is a second waiting period, and that waiting period is from the moment the decree is entered until six months thereafter. And the law says that, except for purposes of appeal, you are still married for six months after your divorce decree is entered. So you have this dual waiting period. And the question is, whether that waiting period makes any...whether that second waiting period makes any sense at all. And if it did no harm, there would be no particular reason to raise the question, but it does a lot of harm in the sense that because that woman or that man is considered still married for six months, anything they want to do legally during that period of time may have to have, by and large, the agreement of the spouse. Now just ask yourself as a practical matter, I mean, you can see right off what kinds of problems are going to come up because, obviously, the spouses are in a very hostile relationship at that point in time, and so it is very difficult to get any sort of cooperation whatsoever. I see this almost every week in the real estate business. If during that six-month waiting period you want to go out and get a loan, you can't do it without the spouse's signature. If you want to refinance the house because the divorce decree has changed around your finances, if you didn't get the car and you need to buy a car and you need to secure the car, you can't do that without a second signature. And so, basically, what I am trying to point out to you is that there are a whole number of legal problems that come up every day. Attorneys see it, title people see it. They come up every day because of this six-month waiting period. And so you need to ask yourself, what good is this waiting period doing. And I suggest that it does no good. So I have taken a long time to tell you what the amendment does but, basically, it ends the waiting period after the decree. It ends the second waiting period and would reduce that simply to a 30-day period in which you could appeal the final decree. And as far as the initial waiting period is concerned, which was 60 days, it extends it to 90 days. So it makes the first waiting period longer, and it eliminates the second waiting period. I know we don't always have to do things as other states do them, nor do I always want to do them as other states do them, but I think there is a lot of wisdom and a lot of common sense reflected in the general statistics nationally as to what...how everybody else has handled this waiting period question. I hope that you will each want at least to take a couple of minutes to look at the handout that has come around to you. If you would look at the handout, you would see that with regard to the first waiting period, the waiting period between