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# VERMONT

## Addendum to

WOMEN'S BUREAU BULLETIN 157-44 (REVISED)—THE LEGAL STATUS OF WOMEN IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, REPORT FOR VERMONT AS OF JANUARY 1, 1959.

*Revised as of March 6, 1964<sup>1</sup>*

This addendum, used with the Report for Vermont, presents a digest of the constitution and statutes affecting the legal status of women in Vermont as of March 6, 1964. The CONTENTS list shows which topics have been changed by enactments since January 1, 1959, and should be consulted before reading the related topic in the Report.

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### CHANGES

#### 7. Liability for family support

Page 7, after the last paragraph insert:

The department of social welfare may request and receive information from the records of all departments, boards, bureaus, or other agencies of this State in seeking to locate parents who have deserted their children and other persons liable for support of dependents for the purpose of enforcing their liability for support (House Bill No. 65, approved March 19, 1963).

#### 16. Provision for survivors during administration of estate

Page 12, third paragraph: Delete, and insert the following:

The probate court may make a reasonable allowance for the maintenance of the widow and/or the minor children constituting the family of a deceased person. This allowance may be taken from his personal estate or from the income of his real or personal estate, from the date of his death until settlement of the estate; or in case of an insolvent estate, for not more than 8 months after administration, and not after the widow's interest and the personal estate are assigned to the widow (T. 14, sec. 404).

<sup>1</sup> Source: *Vermont Statutes Annotated*.

Page 13, after first partial paragraph insert :

If the intestate leaves children under 7 years of age having no mother, or where the mother dies before they reach the age of 7, until they become 7 years of age, an allowance is made for their maintenance out of the personal estate or the income of the real or personal estate as would have been assigned to the mother if she had been living. Such an allowance is made before any distribution of the estate among creditors or heirs, devisees or legatees (T. 14, sec. 405).

## **23. Divorce**

### **Alimony and maintenance**

Page 16, after second full paragraph insert :

A decree of divorce becomes absolute at the expiration of 6 months from the date of entry ; but, in its discretion, the court which grants the divorce may fix an earlier date upon which the decree shall become absolute (T. 15, sec. 553).

When a marriage is dissolved according to law, the parties shall be deemed single and may lawfully marry again; but the court in its decree of divorce shall make an order forbidding the defendant to marry a person other than the plaintiff for 2 years from the time such divorce is granted unless the plaintiff dies. Nevertheless, upon petition of the defendant, the court may permit the defendant to remarry at an earlier date as it shall deem just (T. 15, sec. 559).

## **25. Guardianship of a minor child**

Page 16, fifth full paragraph, next to last line: Change comma to period, delete remainder of sentence and insert :

(T. 14, sec. 2652 amended 6/11/59).

Page 17, after first paragraph insert :

A parent may furnish, with court approval, a valid release on behalf of a minor in settlement of any claim not exceeding \$500 (T. 14, sec. 2642a).

The parent or parents of an unemancipated minor (that is, a minor not relieved from disabilities of minority) under the age of 17 years are liable for damages to any property or injury to any person caused by the willful or malicious act of such minor in an amount not in excess of \$250, provided such minor would be liable if he were an adult. If the damage or injury is caused by two or more such minors, the parent is liable for the damages caused by each of his children in an amount not exceeding \$250. This remedy is in addition to and not in lieu of any other legal recourse (T. 15, sec. 901).