



## 2001 ASSEMBLY BILL 354

April 24, 2001 – Introduced by Representative GUNDRUM. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1     **AN ACT to repeal** 19.01 (4) (c) 2., 48.065 (title), 48.065 (2) to (4), 753.175, 757.68  
2           (2) (title), 757.68 (3), (4) and (5) (title), 757.69 (6), 757.695, 757.72 (title), 757.72  
3           (2), 757.72 (3), 757.72 (4), 757.72 (6), 757.72 (7), 757.72 (8), 757.81 (2), 767.13  
4           (title), 767.13 (2) (title), 767.13 (2) (b), (3) and (4), 767.13 (5) (title) and (a) (title),  
5           767.13 (5) (b) (title), 767.13 (5) (c) (title), 767.13 (6), 767.13 (7) (title), 767.17 and  
6           938.065; **to renumber and amend** 48.065 (1), 757.68 (2), 757.68 (5), 757.69 (1)  
7           (g), 757.69 (3), 757.69 (4) and (5), 757.69 (7), 757.72 (1), 757.72 (5), 767.13 (1),  
8           767.13 (2) (a), 767.13 (5) (a), 767.13 (5) (b), 767.13 (5) (c) and 767.13 (7); **to**  
9           **amend** 13.24 (1), 19.01 (4) (c) 1., 19.01 (4) (c) 4., 40.08 (9m), 46.03 (3), 48.06 (1)  
10          (a) 2., 48.208 (4), 48.21 (1) (a), 48.21 (1) (b), 48.21 (4) (intro.), 48.21 (7), 48.213  
11          (1) (a), 48.213 (1) (b), 48.213 (3) (intro.), 48.213 (6), 48.227 (4) (a), 48.30 (9), 48.32  
12          (1), 48.32 (1b), 48.32 (2) (a), 48.32 (6), 49.852 (3), 49.854 (2) (c), 49.854 (3) (ag)  
13          2., 49.854 (3) (ar), 49.854 (3) (b), 49.854 (5) (f), 49.854 (6) (c), 49.854 (7) (c), 49.854  
14          (7m), 49.855 (3), 49.855 (4m) (b), 49.856 (4), 49.857 (2) (c) 1., 49.857 (3) (ac),

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1 49.857 (3) (ar), 49.858 (3), 51.10 (4m) (d), 51.20 (1) (c), 51.45 (12) (b) (intro.),  
2 51.45 (12) (c) (intro.), 51.45 (12) (c) 1., 51.45 (13) (dm), 59.37, 59.40 (2) (j), 59.53  
3 (5) (a), 59.64 (1) (c) (title), 1. (intro.) and 2., 59.64 (1) (d) (intro.), 59.64 (1) (d) 1.  
4 (intro.), 59.64 (1) (d) 1m. (form), 59.64 (1) (e), 59.64 (1) (f), 59.64 (1) (g) 4., 59.79  
5 (5), 63.03 (2) (z), 69.15 (3m) (a) 3. and 4., 75.43, 101.02 (5) (c), 103.005 (5) (c),  
6 133.10 (1), 133.11 (1), 133.11 (3), 171.04 (1), 171.04 (2), 171.04 (3), 171.05,  
7 171.06, 196.24 (2), 196.675 (3), 563.71 (1) (a), 563.71 (1) (c), 757.23, 757.24,  
8 757.30 (2), 757.68 (title), 757.69 (title), 757.69 (1) (b), 757.69 (1) (j), 757.69 (1)  
9 (m), 757.69 (2) (intro.), 757.69 (2) (a), 757.70 (2), 757.81 (6), 757.85 (1) (a), 757.85  
10 (1) (b), 757.85 (3), 757.85 (4), 757.85 (5), 757.87 (1), 757.89, 757.93 (1) (a), 757.93  
11 (1) (b), 757.93 (2), 757.93 (4) (a), 757.95, 757.99, 765.11 (1), 765.11 (2), 765.16  
12 (5), 767.045 (1) (c) (intro.), 767.081 (title), 767.081 (1), 767.081 (2) (a) (intro.),  
13 767.081 (2) (b), 767.083 (2), 767.085 (1) (i), 767.085 (1) (j) (intro.), 767.085 (3),  
14 767.087 (1) (b), 767.087 (1) (c), 767.087 (2), 767.11 (1) (c), 767.11 (5) (a), 767.11  
15 (5) (b), 767.11 (5) (c), 767.11 (6), 767.11 (7), 767.11 (13), 767.115 (1) (a), 767.115  
16 (1) (b), 767.115 (1m), 767.115 (2), 767.115 (4) (a), 767.115 (4) (b), 767.115 (4) (c)  
17 2., 767.12 (1), 767.125, 767.14, 767.145 (1), 767.15 (1), 767.16, 767.23 (1) (intro.),  
18 767.23 (1) (a), 767.23 (1) (am), 767.23 (1m), 767.23 (1n), 767.242 (3) (b), 767.242  
19 (3) (c), 767.242 (5) (a), 767.242 (5) (b) (intro.), 767.242 (5) (b) 2. c., 767.242 (5)  
20 (c), 767.242 (5) (d), 767.242 (6) (a), 767.247, 767.25 (4m) (f) 2., 767.265 (1),  
21 767.265 (2h), 767.265 (2m) (b), 767.265 (2r), 767.267 (1), 767.267 (5), 767.27 (2),  
22 767.29 (title), 767.29 (1) (c), 767.29 (1) (d), 767.29 (1) (e), 767.29 (1m) (b), 767.29  
23 (3) (a), 767.29 (3) (b), 767.293 (1), 767.293 (2), 767.293 (3), 767.32 (1) (a), 767.327  
24 (2) (c), 767.33 (2), 767.37 (1) (a), 767.37 (2), 767.45 (5) (b), 767.455 (5) (form),  
25 767.458 (1m), 767.46 (1), 767.463, 767.465 (2) (a), 767.62 (2) (b), 767.62 (3) (b),

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1           767.62 (4) (intro.), 769.102, 769.302, 782.01 (3), 782.03, 782.28, 799.03, 799.05  
2           (7) (intro.), 799.06 (1), 799.11 (3), 799.20 (4), 799.206 (1), (2) and (4), 799.207  
3           (title), 799.207 (1) (a), 799.207 (1) (b), 799.207 (1) (e), 799.207 (2) (intro.),  
4           799.207 (3) (b), 799.209 (1) to (4), 799.21 (3) (b), 799.21 (4), 799.24 (1), 799.24  
5           (3), 799.26 (1), 803.01 (3) (b) 1., 807.02, 807.04 (1), 807.09 (1), 812.30 (2), 813.025  
6           (1), 813.12 (2) (a), 813.12 (2) (b), 813.12 (3) (a), 813.12 (3) (am), 813.12 (3) (c),  
7           813.12 (3) (d), 813.12 (4) (a) (intro.), 813.12 (4) (a) 3., 813.12 (4) (am), 813.12 (4)  
8           (b), 813.12 (4m) (a) 2., 813.12 (4m) (b) (intro.), 813.12 (4m) (b) 2., 813.12 (5) (c),  
9           813.12 (6) (a), 813.12 (7m), 813.122 (3) (a), 813.122 (3) (b) (intro.), 813.122 (3)  
10          (bm), 813.122 (4) (a) (intro.), 813.122 (4) (a) 1., 813.122 (4) (a) 2., 813.122 (5m)  
11          (a) 2., 813.122 (5m) (b) (intro.), 813.122 (5m) (b) 2., 813.122 (9) (a), 813.123 (3)  
12          (a), 813.123 (3) (b) (intro.), 813.123 (4) (a), 813.123 (8) (a), 813.125 (3) (a) (intro.),  
13          813.125 (3) (a) 2., 813.125 (3) (c), 813.125 (4) (a) (intro.), 813.125 (4) (a) 2.,  
14          813.125 (4) (a) 3., 813.125 (4m) (a), 813.125 (4m) (c) 2., 813.125 (4m) (d) (intro.),  
15          813.125 (4m) (d) 2., 813.125 (5) (am), 814.615 (3), 814.68 (title), 814.68 (1)  
16          (intro.), 814.68 (1) (a), 814.68 (1) (b) (intro.), 814.68 (1) (b) 1., 814.68 (2), 816.03  
17          (1) (b), 816.035 (1) and (2), 818.02 (6), 879.61, 885.10, 885.12, 887.26 (7), 898.02,  
18          898.04, 898.11, 906.15 (1), 906.15 (2) (d), 906.15 (3), 911.01 (1), 938.06 (1) (a) 2.,  
19          938.208 (4), 938.21 (1) (a), 938.21 (1) (b), 938.21 (2) (c), 938.21 (4) (intro.), 938.21  
20          (4m), 938.21 (7), 938.30 (9), 938.32 (1) (a), 938.32 (1d), 938.32 (1g) (intro.),  
21          938.32 (1m) (intro.) and (a), 938.32 (1t) (a) 1., 938.32 (1t) (a) 1m., 938.32 (1t) (a)  
22          3., 938.32 (1v), 938.32 (1x), 938.32 (2) (a), 938.32 (6), 940.203 (1) (b), 943.013 (1)  
23          (b), 946.495, 967.07, 971.20 (3) (a), 973.20 (13) (c) 4., 977.05 (6) (b) 2., 979.05 (1),  
24          979.05 (3), 979.05 (4), 979.05 (5), 979.05 (6), 979.06 (1), 979.06 (2), 979.06 (3),  
25          979.06 (4) (intro.), 979.06 (5), 979.08 (1), 979.08 (3) (intro.), 979.08 (6), 979.08

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1 (7) and 979.09; **to repeal and recreate** 17.16 (1), 757.68 (1), 757.69 (1) (intro.),  
2 757.69 (1) (k) and 979.05 (2); and **to create** 757.001, 757.01 (4), 757.675 (title),  
3 757.68 (5m), 757.68 (6), 757.68 (7), 757.69 (1) (g) 8. to 13., 757.69 (1m), 757.69  
4 (2m) and 757.69 (8) of the statutes; **relating to:** powers, responsibilities, and  
5 appointment of court commissioners.

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***Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau***

Current law establishes the powers and duties of family, juvenile, probate, and part-time court commissioners. In addition, current law establishes how these court commissioners are appointed, who determines how many court commissioners shall be appointed, and whether they are classified or unclassified within their respective counties. Currently, some of the powers of each of the different court commissioners are specified in the statutes related to their subject area, such as juvenile court commissioners' duties in chapters 48 and 938 of the statutes. Other duties of these court commissioners are specified in the general court statutes.

In supreme court order 97-10, the supreme court created chapter 75 of the supreme court rules. Those rules, effective January 1, 1999, created two types of court commissioners, circuit court commissioners (formerly included family, juvenile, small claims, and probate court commissioners) and supplemental court commissioners (formerly part-time court commissioners). Under these rules, all circuit court commissioners are appointed by the chief judge of their judicial administrative district. The powers of those circuit court commissioners are as specified by statute, except that the chief judge may, under the rules, authorize the powers that a specific circuit court commissioner may perform. Chapter 75 of the supreme court rules also authorizes the chief judge to allow a supplemental court commissioner to perform specific duties of a circuit court commissioner on a temporary basis.

This bill consolidates all of the powers and duties of court commissioners into one chapter of the statutes and codifies chapter 75 of the supreme court rules related to the appointment and authority of court commissioners. The bill creates two types of court commissioners, circuit court commissioners and supplemental court commissioners, and gives the chief judge of the judicial administrative district the power to appoint the circuit court commissioners. The bill does not change any of the powers and duties currently provided to court commissioners, but does specify that circuit court commissioners have, in addition to their own specified powers and

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duties, all of those powers and duties provided to supplemental court commissioners, as court commissioners have under current law.

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*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

1           **SECTION 1.** 13.24 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           13.24 (1) After the service of the notice required by s. 13.23 either party may  
3 proceed to take the depositions of witnesses before any judge, circuit or supplemental  
4 court commissioner or a municipal judge in the district where the contest is pending,  
5 upon giving 10 days' notice in writing to the opposite party of the time and place at  
6 which and the officer before whom such depositions will be taken. No deposition  
7 shall be taken after the last Monday preceding the day fixed by law for the meeting  
8 of the legislature, except in case of sickness or unavoidable absence of witnesses.

9           **SECTION 2.** 17.16 (1) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

10          17.16 (1) Removals from office at pleasure shall be made by order, a copy of  
11 which shall be filed as provided by sub. (8), except that a copy of the order of removal  
12 of a circuit court commissioner shall be filed in the office of the clerk of the circuit  
13 court.

14          **SECTION 3.** 19.01 (4) (c) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

15          19.01 (4) (c) 1. All circuit and supplemental court commissioners.

16          **SECTION 4.** 19.01 (4) (c) 2. of the statutes is repealed.

17          **SECTION 5.** 19.01 (4) (c) 4. of the statutes is amended to read:

18          19.01 (4) (c) 4. All judges or judicial officers, not included in subds. 1. to and  
19 3., elected or appointed for that county, or whose jurisdiction is limited to that county.

20          **SECTION 6.** 40.08 (9m) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           40.08 **(9m)** GUARDIANS. An application for a benefit, a designation of a  
2 beneficiary or any other document which has a long-term effect on a person's rights  
3 and benefits under this chapter and which requires a signature may be signed and  
4 filed by a guardian of the estate when accompanied by a photocopy or facsimile of an  
5 order of guardianship issued by a circuit court judge or a register in probate or a  
6 ~~probate~~ circuit court commissioner who is assigned the authority to issue such orders  
7 under s. ~~757.72 (2) or (5)~~ 851.73 (1) (g).

8           **SECTION 7.** 46.03 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

9           46.03 **(3)** TRUSTEE DUTY. Take and hold in trust, whenever it considers  
10 acceptance advantageous, all property transferred to the state to be applied to any  
11 specified purpose, use or benefit pertaining to any of the institutions under its control  
12 or the inmates thereof, and apply the same in accordance with the trust; and when  
13 ordered by the court, act as trustee of funds paid for the support of any child if  
14 appointed by the court or ~~family~~ a circuit court commissioner under s. 767.475 (7).

15           **SECTION 8.** 48.06 (1) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

16           48.06 **(1)** (a) 2. The chief judge of the judicial administrative district shall  
17 formulate written judicial policy governing intake and court services for child  
18 welfare matters under this chapter and the department shall be charged with  
19 executing the judicial policy. The chief judge shall direct and supervise the work of  
20 all personnel of the court, except the work of the district attorney or corporation  
21 counsel assigned to the court. ~~The chief judge may delegate his or her supervisory~~  
22 ~~functions under s. 48.065 (1).~~

23           **SECTION 9.** 48.065 (title) of the statutes is repealed.

24           **SECTION 10.** 48.065 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 757.68 (3m) and amended  
25 to read:

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1           757.68 (3m) The board of supervisors of any county may authorize the chief  
2 judge of the judicial administrative district to appoint establish one or more circuit  
3 court commissioner positions on a part-time or full-time juvenile court  
4 commissioners who basis to assist in matters affecting juveniles. A circuit court  
5 commissioner under this subsection shall serve at the discretion of the chief judge.  
6 ~~A juvenile court commissioner shall be licensed to practice law in this state and shall~~  
7 ~~have been so licensed for at least 2 years immediately prior to appointment and shall~~  
8 ~~have a demonstrated interest in the welfare of children and unborn children. The~~  
9 ~~chief judge may assign law clerks, bailiffs and deputies to the court commissioner.~~  
10 ~~The chief judge shall supervise juvenile court commissioners, law clerks, bailiffs and~~  
11 ~~deputies, except that the chief judge may delegate any of those duties.~~

12           **SECTION 11.** 48.065 (2) to (4) of the statutes are repealed.

13           **SECTION 12.** 48.208 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

14           48.208 (4) Probable cause exists to believe that the child, having been placed  
15 in nonsecure custody by an intake worker under s. 48.207 (1) or by the judge or  
16 juvenile a circuit court commissioner under s. 48.21 (4), has run away or committed  
17 a delinquent act and no other suitable alternative exists.

18           **SECTION 13.** 48.21 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

19           48.21 (1) (a) If a child who has been taken into custody is not released under  
20 s. 48.20, a hearing to determine whether the child shall continue to be held in custody  
21 under the criteria of ss. 48.205 to 48.209 shall be conducted by the judge or juvenile  
22 a circuit court commissioner within 48 hours of the time the decision to hold the child  
23 was made, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays. By the time of the  
24 hearing a petition under s. 48.25 shall be filed, except that no petition need be filed  
25 where a child is taken into custody under s. 48.19 (1) (b) or (d) 2. or 7. or where the

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1 child is a runaway from another state, in which case a written statement of the  
2 reasons for holding a child in custody shall be substituted if the petition is not filed.  
3 If no hearing has been held within 48 hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal  
4 holidays, or if no petition or statement has been filed at the time of the hearing, the  
5 child shall be released except as provided in par. (b). A parent not present at the  
6 hearing shall be granted a rehearing upon request.

7 **SECTION 14.** 48.21 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

8 48.21 (1) (b) If no petition has been filed by the time of the hearing, a child may  
9 be held in custody with approval of the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner  
10 for an additional 72 hours from the time of the hearing, excluding Saturdays,  
11 Sundays and legal holidays, only if, as a result of the facts brought forth at the  
12 hearing, the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner determines that probable  
13 cause exists to believe that the child is an imminent danger to himself or herself or  
14 to others, that probable cause exists to believe that the parent, guardian or legal  
15 custodian of the child or other responsible adult is neglecting, refusing, unable or  
16 unavailable to provide adequate supervision and care or, if the child is an expectant  
17 mother who was taken into custody under s. 48.19 (1) (cm) or (d) 8., that probable  
18 cause exists to believe that there is a substantial risk that if the child expectant  
19 mother is not held, the physical health of the unborn child, and of the child when  
20 born, will be seriously affected or endangered by the child expectant mother's  
21 habitual lack of self-control in the use of alcohol beverages, controlled substances or  
22 controlled substance analogs, exhibited to a severe degree, and to believe that the  
23 child expectant mother is refusing or has refused to accept any alcohol or other drug  
24 abuse services offered to her or is not making or has not made a good faith effort to  
25 participate in any alcohol or other drug abuse services offered to her. The extension



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1 may be granted only once for any petition. In the event of failure to file a petition  
2 within the extension period provided for in this paragraph, the judge or juvenile  
3 circuit court commissioner shall order the child's immediate release from custody.

4 **SECTION 15.** 48.21 (4) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 48.21 (4) CONTINUATION OF CUSTODY. (intro.) If the judge or juvenile circuit court  
6 commissioner finds that the child should be continued in custody under the criteria  
7 of s. 48.205, he or she shall enter one of the following orders:

8 **SECTION 16.** 48.21 (7) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 48.21 (7) INFORMAL DISPOSITION. If the judge or juvenile circuit court  
10 commissioner determines that the best interests of the child and the public are  
11 served or, in the case of a child expectant mother who has been taken into custody  
12 under s. 48.19 (1) (cm) or (d) 8., that the best interests of the unborn child and the  
13 public are served, he or she may enter a consent decree under s. 48.32 or order the  
14 petition dismissed and refer the matter to the intake worker for informal disposition  
15 in accordance with s. 48.245.

16 **SECTION 17.** 48.213 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 48.213 (1) (a) If an adult expectant mother of an unborn child who has been  
18 taken into custody is not released under s. 48.203, a hearing to determine whether  
19 the adult expectant mother shall continue to be held in custody under the criteria of  
20 s. 48.205 (1m) shall be conducted by the judge or juvenile a circuit court  
21 commissioner within 48 hours after the time that the decision to hold the adult  
22 expectant mother was made, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays. By  
23 the time of the hearing a petition under s. 48.25 shall be filed, except that no petition  
24 need be filed when an adult expectant mother is taken into custody under s. 48.193  
25 (1) (b) or (d) 1. or 3., in which case a written statement of the reasons for holding the

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1 adult expectant mother in custody shall be substituted if the petition is not filed. If  
2 no hearing has been held within those 48 hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and  
3 legal holidays, or if no petition or statement has been filed at the time of the hearing,  
4 the adult expectant mother shall be released except as provided in par. (b).

5 **SECTION 18.** 48.213 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 48.213 (1) (b) If no petition has been filed by the time of the hearing, an adult  
7 expectant mother of an unborn child may be held in custody with the approval of the  
8 judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner for an additional 72 hours after the time  
9 of the hearing, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, only if, as a result  
10 of the facts brought forth at the hearing, the judge or juvenile circuit court  
11 commissioner determines that probable cause exists to believe that there is a  
12 substantial risk that if the adult expectant mother is not held, the physical health  
13 of the unborn child, and of the child when born, will be seriously affected or  
14 endangered by the adult expectant mother's habitual lack of self-control in the use  
15 of alcohol beverages, controlled substances or controlled substance analogs,  
16 exhibited to a severe degree, and to believe that the adult expectant mother is  
17 refusing or has refused to accept any alcohol or other drug abuse services offered to  
18 her or is not making or has not made a good faith effort to participate in any alcohol  
19 or other drug abuse services offered to her. The extension may be granted only once  
20 for any petition. In the event of failure to file a petition within the extension period  
21 provided for in this paragraph, the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner shall  
22 order the adult expectant mother's immediate release from custody.

23 **SECTION 19.** 48.213 (3) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

24 48.213 (3) CONTINUATION OF CUSTODY. (intro.) If the judge or juvenile circuit  
25 court commissioner finds that the adult expectant mother should be continued in

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1 custody under the criteria of s. 48.205 (1m), the judge or juvenile circuit court  
2 commissioner shall enter one of the following orders:

3 **SECTION 20.** 48.213 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 48.213 (6) INFORMAL DISPOSITION. If the judge or juvenile circuit court  
5 commissioner determines that the best interests of the unborn child and the public  
6 are served, the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner may enter a consent  
7 decree under s. 48.32 or order the petition dismissed and refer the matter to the  
8 intake worker for informal disposition in accordance with s. 48.245.

9 **SECTION 21.** 48.227 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

10 48.227 (4) (a) If the child's parent, guardian or legal custodian does not consent  
11 to the temporary care and housing of the child at the runaway home as provided  
12 under sub. (2) or (3), a hearing shall be held on the issue by the judge or juvenile a  
13 circuit court commissioner within 24 hours of the time that the child entered the  
14 runaway home, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays. The intake  
15 worker shall notify the child and the child's parent, guardian or legal custodian of  
16 the time, place and purpose of the hearing.

17 **SECTION 22.** 48.30 (9) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 48.30 (9) If a circuit court commissioner conducts the plea hearing and accepts  
19 an admission of the alleged facts in a petition brought under s. 48.13 or 48.133, the  
20 judge shall review the admission at the beginning of the dispositional hearing by  
21 addressing the parties and making the inquiries set forth in sub. (8).

22 **SECTION 23.** 48.32 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 48.32 (1) At any time after the filing of a petition for a proceeding relating to  
24 s. 48.13 or 48.133 and before the entry of judgment, the judge or juvenile a circuit  
25 court commissioner may suspend the proceedings and place the child or expectant

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1 mother under supervision in the home or present placement of the child or expectant  
2 mother. The court may establish terms and conditions applicable to the child and the  
3 child's parent, guardian or legal custodian, to the child expectant mother and her  
4 parent, guardian or legal custodian or to the adult expectant mother, including the  
5 condition specified in sub. (1b). The order under this section shall be known as a  
6 consent decree and must be agreed to by the child if 12 years of age or older, the  
7 parent, guardian or legal custodian, and the person filing the petition under s. 48.25;  
8 by the child expectant mother, her parent, guardian or legal custodian, the unborn  
9 child by the unborn child's guardian ad litem and the person filing the petition under  
10 s. 48.25; or by the adult expectant mother, the unborn child by the unborn child's  
11 guardian ad litem and the person filing the petition under s. 48.25. The consent  
12 decree shall be reduced to writing and given to the parties.

13 **SECTION 24.** 48.32 (1b) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 48.32 (1b) The judge or juvenile a circuit court commissioner may, as a  
15 condition under sub. (1), request a court-appointed special advocate program to  
16 designate a court-appointed special advocate for the child to perform the activities  
17 specified in s. 48.236 (3) that are authorized in the memorandum of understanding  
18 under s. 48.07 (5) (a). A court-appointed special advocate designated under this  
19 subsection shall have the authority specified in s. 48.236 (4) that is authorized in the  
20 memorandum of understanding under s. 48.07 (5) (a).

21 **SECTION 25.** 48.32 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

22 48.32 (2) (a) A consent decree shall remain in effect up to 6 months unless the  
23 child, parent, guardian, legal custodian or expectant mother is discharged sooner by  
24 the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner.

25 **SECTION 26.** 48.32 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           48.32 (6) The judge or ~~juvenile~~ circuit court commissioner shall inform the child  
2           and the child's parent, guardian or legal custodian, or the adult expectant mother,  
3           in writing, of the right of the child or expectant mother to object to the continuation  
4           of the consent decree under sub. (3) and the fact that the hearing under which the  
5           child or expectant mother was placed on supervision may be continued to conclusion  
6           as if the consent decree had never been entered.

7           **SECTION 27.** 49.852 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

8           49.852 (3) If a person has requested a hearing pursuant to sub. (2) (b), the  
9           hearing shall be conducted before the circuit court that rendered the initial order to  
10          pay support. The court shall schedule a hearing within 10 business days after  
11          receiving a request for a hearing. ~~The family~~ A circuit court commissioner may  
12          conduct the hearing. If the court determines that the person owes the amount  
13          specified in the statewide support lien docket under s. 49.854 (2) (b), the department  
14          of workforce development may direct the department of employee trust funds, the  
15          retirement system of any 1st class city, any retirement system established under  
16          chapter 201, laws of 1937, or the administrator of any other pension plan, whichever  
17          is appropriate, to withhold the amount from any lump sum payment from a pension  
18          plan that may be paid the person. If the court determines that the person does not  
19          owe the amount specified in the statewide support lien docket under s. 49.854 (2) (b),  
20          the department of workforce development may not direct the department of  
21          employee trust funds, the retirement system of any 1st class city, any retirement  
22          system established under chapter 201, laws of 1937, or the administrator of any  
23          other pension plan, whichever is appropriate, to withhold the amount from any lump  
24          sum payment from a pension plan that may be paid the person.

25          **SECTION 28.** 49.854 (2) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           49.854 (2) (c) *Updating the statewide support lien docket.* The department shall  
2 update the statewide support lien docket in response to orders issued by a court or  
3 ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner. The department shall periodically update the  
4 statewide support lien docket to reflect changes in the amounts of the liens contained  
5 in the docket.

6           **SECTION 29.** 49.854 (3) (ag) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

7           49.854 (3) (ag) 2. If the obligor disagrees with the determination of the  
8 department, the obligor may request a hearing with the court or a ~~family~~ circuit court  
9 commissioner to review the department's determination. To request a hearing under  
10 this subdivision, the obligor shall make the request within 5 business days of the date  
11 of the department's determination under subd. 1. The obligor shall make the request  
12 in writing and shall mail or deliver a copy of the request to the county child support  
13 agency. If a timely request for a hearing is made under this subdivision, the court  
14 or ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner shall hold the hearing within 15 business days  
15 of the request. If, at the hearing, the obligor establishes that the lien is not proper  
16 because of a mistake of fact, the court or ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner shall order  
17 the department to remove the lien from the statewide support lien docket or adjust  
18 the amount of the delinquent obligation.

19           **SECTION 30.** 49.854 (3) (ar) of the statutes is amended to read:

20           49.854 (3) (ar) *Direct appeal.* If the obligor has not requested a financial  
21 records and court order review under par. (ag), the obligor may request a hearing  
22 under this paragraph within 20 business days of the date of the notice under par. (a).  
23 The obligor shall make the request in writing and shall mail or deliver a copy of the  
24 request to the county child support agency. If a timely request for a hearing is made  
25 under this paragraph, the court or ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner shall schedule

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1 a hearing within 10 days after the date of the request. If, at the hearing, the obligor  
2 establishes that the lien is not proper because of a mistake of fact, the court or family  
3 circuit court commissioner shall order the department to remove the lien from the  
4 statewide support lien docket or adjust the amount of the delinquent obligation.

5 **SECTION 31.** 49.854 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 49.854 (3) (b) *Appeal.* If a family circuit court commissioner conducts a hearing  
7 under par. (ag) or (ar), the department or the obligor may, within 15 business days  
8 after the date of the decision by the family circuit court commissioner, request review  
9 of the decision by the court having jurisdiction over the action. The court conducting  
10 the review may order that the lien be withdrawn from the statewide support lien  
11 dockets or may order an adjustment of the amount of the delinquent obligation. If  
12 no appeal is sought or if the court does not order the withdrawal of the lien, the  
13 department may take appropriate actions to enforce the lien.

14 **SECTION 32.** 49.854 (5) (f) of the statutes is amended to read:

15 49.854 (5) (f) *Hearings.* A hearing requested under par. (d) 6. shall be  
16 conducted before the circuit court rendering the order to pay support. Within 45  
17 business days after receiving a request for hearing under par. (d) 6., the court shall  
18 conduct the hearing. The family A circuit court commissioner may conduct the  
19 hearing. The hearing shall be limited to a review of whether the account holder owes  
20 the amount of support certified and whether any alternative payment arrangement  
21 offered by the department or the county child support agency is reasonable. If the  
22 court or family circuit court commissioner makes a written determination that an  
23 alternative payment arrangement offered by the department or county child support  
24 agency is not reasonable, the court or family circuit court commissioner may order  
25 an alternative payment arrangement. If the court or family circuit court

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1 commissioner orders an alternative payment arrangement, the court or family  
2 circuit court commissioner shall order the department to release all or a portion of  
3 the funds. If the court or ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner determines that the  
4 account holder does not owe support or owes less than the amount claimed by the  
5 department, the court shall order the department to return the seized funds or the  
6 excess of the seized funds over the amount of the delinquency to the account holder.  
7 If a ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner conducts the hearing under this paragraph,  
8 the department or the obligor may, within 15 business days after the date that the  
9 ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner makes his or her decision, request review of the  
10 decision by the court with jurisdiction over the action.

11 **SECTION 33.** 49.854 (6) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

12 49.854 (6) (c) *Hearing.* If a hearing is requested under par. (b) 4., the court or  
13 ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner shall schedule a hearing within 10 business days  
14 after receiving the request under par. (b) 4. The hearing shall be limited to a review  
15 of whether the obligor owes the amount of support owed that is stated in the notice  
16 of seizure and whether any alternative payment arrangement offered by the  
17 department or the county child support agency is reasonable. If the court or ~~family~~  
18 circuit court commissioner makes a written determination that an alternative  
19 payment arrangement offered by the department or county child support agency is  
20 not reasonable, the court or ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner may order an  
21 alternative payment arrangement. If the court or ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner  
22 orders an alternative payment arrangement, the court or ~~family~~ circuit court  
23 commissioner shall order the department to return the seized property within 15  
24 business days. If the court or ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner determines that the  
25 obligor does not owe support or owes less than the amount claimed by the



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1 department, the court shall order the department to return the seized property  
2 within 15 business days or specify the amount which may be retained by the  
3 department after the sale of the seized property. If a family circuit court  
4 commissioner conducts the hearing under this paragraph, the department or the  
5 obligor may, within 15 business days after the date that the family circuit court  
6 commissioner makes his or her decision, request review of the decision by the court  
7 with jurisdiction over the action. The court reviewing the decision may order the  
8 department to return the seized property or may authorize the sale of the property  
9 by the department. If the department is ordered to return seized property under this  
10 paragraph, the court shall instruct any state agency responsible for titling the  
11 property that it may transfer title to the property without receiving instructions from  
12 a court or the department under par. (a).

13 **SECTION 34.** 49.854 (7) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 49.854 (7) (c) *Hearing*. If a hearing is requested under par. (b) 1. c., the court  
15 or family circuit court commissioner shall schedule a hearing within 10 business  
16 days after receiving the request under par. (b) 1. c. The hearing shall be limited to  
17 a review of whether the obligor owes the amount of support owed that is stated in the  
18 notice of intent under par. (b) and whether any alternative payment arrangement  
19 offered by the department or the county child support agency is reasonable. If the  
20 court or family circuit court commissioner makes a written determination that an  
21 alternative payment arrangement offered by the department or county child support  
22 agency is not reasonable, the court or family circuit court commissioner may order  
23 an alternative payment arrangement. If the court or family circuit court  
24 commissioner orders an alternative payment arrangement, the court or family  
25 circuit court commissioner shall order the department not to proceed with the levy.

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1 If the court or family circuit court commissioner determines that the obligor does not  
2 owe support or owes less than the amount claimed by the department, the court shall  
3 order the department not to proceed with the levy or specify the amount that may  
4 be retained by the department after the sale of the seized property. If a family circuit  
5 court commissioner conducts the hearing under this paragraph, the department or  
6 the obligor may, within 15 business days after the date that the family circuit court  
7 commissioner makes his or her decision, request review of the decision by the court  
8 with jurisdiction over the action. The court reviewing the decision may order the  
9 department not to proceed with the levy of the property or may authorize the sale of  
10 the property by the department.

11 **SECTION 35.** 49.854 (7m) of the statutes is amended to read:

12 49.854 (7m) JOINTLY HELD PROPERTY. A person, other than the obligor, who holds  
13 a joint interest in property levied against under this section may request a hearing,  
14 as provided in subs. (5) (d) 6m., (6) (b) 3m. or (7) (b) 1. d., to determine the proportion  
15 of the value of the property that is attributable to his or her net contribution to the  
16 property. If a hearing is requested under this subsection, the court or family circuit  
17 court commissioner shall schedule a hearing within 10 days after receiving the  
18 request. The hearing shall be limited to determining the proportion of the value of  
19 the property that is attributable to the person's net contribution to the property. If  
20 more than one person requests a hearing under this subsection, or if the obligor  
21 requests a hearing under sub. (5) (f), (6) (c) or (7) (c), with respect to the same  
22 property, the court or family circuit court commissioner may schedule the hearings  
23 together. The person requesting the hearing shall have the burden of proving his or  
24 her net contribution by clear and convincing evidence. If the court determines that  
25 a portion of the jointly held property is attributable to the contributions of the person,

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1 the court shall direct the department or the county child support agency to pay the  
2 person, from the net balance of the jointly held account or the net proceeds of the sale  
3 of the jointly held real or personal property, the proportion of the gross value of the  
4 account or real or personal property that is attributable to that person. If ~~the family~~  
5 a circuit court commissioner conducts the hearing under this subsection, the person  
6 may, within 15 business days after the date that the ~~family~~ circuit court  
7 commissioner makes his or her decision, request review of the decision by the court  
8 with jurisdiction over the action.

9 **SECTION 36.** 49.855 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

10 49.855 (3) Receipt of a certification by the department of revenue shall  
11 constitute a lien, equal to the amount certified, on any state tax refunds or credits  
12 owed to the obligor. The lien shall be foreclosed by the department of revenue as a  
13 setoff under s. 71.93 (3), (6) and (7). When the department of revenue determines  
14 that the obligor is otherwise entitled to a state tax refund or credit, it shall notify the  
15 obligor that the state intends to reduce any state tax refund or credit due the obligor  
16 by the amount the obligor is delinquent under the support or maintenance order, by  
17 the outstanding amount for past support, medical expenses or birth expenses under  
18 the court order or by the amount due under s. 46.10 (4) or 301.12 (4). The notice shall  
19 provide that within 20 days the obligor may request a hearing before the circuit court  
20 rendering the order. Within 10 days after receiving a request for hearing under this  
21 subsection, the court shall set the matter for hearing. Pending further order by the  
22 court or ~~family~~ a circuit court commissioner, the department of workforce  
23 development or its designee, whichever is appropriate, is prohibited from disbursing  
24 the obligor's state tax refund or credit. ~~The family~~ A circuit court commissioner may  
25 conduct the hearing. The sole issues at that hearing shall be whether the obligor

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1 owes the amount certified and, if not and it is a support or maintenance order,  
2 whether the money withheld from a tax refund or credit shall be paid to the obligor  
3 or held for future support or maintenance. An obligor may, within 20 days of  
4 receiving notice that the amount certified shall be withheld from his or her federal  
5 tax refund or credit, request a hearing under this subsection.

6 **SECTION 37.** 49.855 (4m) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 49.855 (4m) (b) The department of revenue may provide a certification that it  
8 receives under sub. (1), (2m) or (2p) to the department of administration. Upon  
9 receipt of the certification, the department of administration shall determine  
10 whether the obligor is a vendor or is receiving any other payments from this state,  
11 except for wages, retirement benefits or assistance under s. 45.352, 1971 stats., s.  
12 45.351 (1), this chapter or ch. 46, 108 or 301. If the department of administration  
13 determines that the obligor is a vendor or is receiving payments from this state,  
14 except for wages, retirement benefits or assistance under s. 45.352, 1971 stats., s.  
15 45.351 (1), this chapter or ch. 46, 108 or 301, it shall begin to withhold the amount  
16 certified from those payments and shall notify the obligor that the state intends to  
17 reduce any payments due the obligor by the amount the obligor is delinquent under  
18 the support or maintenance order, by the outstanding amount for past support,  
19 medical expenses or birth expenses under the court order or by the amount due under  
20 s. 46.10 (4) or 301.12 (4). The notice shall provide that within 20 days after receipt  
21 of the notice the obligor may request a hearing before the circuit court rendering the  
22 order. An obligor may, within 20 days after receiving notice, request a hearing under  
23 this paragraph. Within 10 days after receiving a request for hearing under this  
24 paragraph, the court shall set the matter for hearing. ~~The family~~ A circuit court  
25 commissioner may conduct the hearing. Pending further order by the court or ~~family~~

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1 circuit court commissioner, the department of workforce development or its designee,  
2 whichever is appropriate, may not disburse the payments withheld from the obligor.  
3 The sole issues at the hearing are whether the obligor owes the amount certified and,  
4 if not and it is a support or maintenance order, whether the money withheld shall be  
5 paid to the obligor or held for future support or maintenance.

6 **SECTION 38.** 49.856 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 49.856 (4) If the obligor requests a hearing under sub. (3) (b), the circuit court  
8 shall schedule a hearing within 10 business days after receiving the request. The  
9 only issue at the hearing shall be whether the person owes the delinquent payment  
10 or outstanding amount specified in the statewide support lien docket under s. 49.854  
11 (2) (b). A family circuit court commissioner may conduct the hearing.

12 **SECTION 39.** 49.857 (2) (c) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

13 49.857 (2) (c) 1. The system shall provide for adequate notice to an individual  
14 who is delinquent in making court-ordered payments of support, an opportunity for  
15 the individual to make alternative arrangements for paying the delinquent support,  
16 an opportunity for the individual to request and obtain a hearing before a court or  
17 family circuit court commissioner as provided in sub. (3) and prompt reinstatement  
18 of the individual's license upon payment of the delinquent support or upon making  
19 satisfactory alternative payment arrangements.

20 **SECTION 40.** 49.857 (3) (ac) of the statutes is amended to read:

21 49.857 (3) (ac) 1. If an individual timely requests a hearing under par. (a) 5.,  
22 the court shall schedule a hearing within 10 business days after receiving the  
23 request. ~~The family~~ A circuit court commissioner may conduct the hearing. The only  
24 issues at the hearing shall be whether the individual is delinquent in making  
25 court-ordered payments of support and whether any alternative payment

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1 arrangement offered by the department of workforce development or the county child  
2 support agency is reasonable.

3 2. If at a hearing under subd. 1. the court or ~~family~~ family circuit court commissioner  
4 finds that the individual does not owe delinquent support, or if within 20 business  
5 days after receiving a notice under par. (a) the individual pays the delinquent  
6 amount in full or makes satisfactory alternative payment arrangements, the  
7 department of workforce development ~~shall~~ may not place the individual's name on  
8 a certification list.

9 3. If at a hearing under subd. 1. the court or ~~family~~ family circuit court commissioner  
10 makes a written determination that alternative payment arrangements proposed by  
11 the department of workforce development or a child support agency are not  
12 reasonable, the court or ~~family~~ family circuit court commissioner may order for the  
13 individual an alternative payment arrangement. If the court or ~~family~~ family circuit court  
14 commissioner orders an alternative payment arrangement, the department of  
15 workforce development may not place the individual's name on a certification list.

16 **SECTION 41.** 49.857 (3) (ar) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 49.857 (3) (ar) 1. If an individual timely requests a hearing under par. (am) 5.,  
18 the court shall schedule a hearing within 10 business days after receiving the  
19 request. ~~The family~~ A circuit court commissioner may conduct the hearing. The only  
20 issues at the hearing shall be whether the individual is delinquent in making  
21 court-ordered payments of support and whether any alternative payment  
22 arrangement offered by the department of workforce development or the county child  
23 support agency is reasonable.

24 2. If at a hearing under subd. 1. the court or ~~family~~ family circuit court commissioner  
25 finds that the individual does not owe delinquent support, or if within 20 business

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1 days after receiving a notice under par. (am) the individual pays the delinquent  
2 amount in full or makes satisfactory alternative payment arrangements, the  
3 department of workforce development shall remove the individual's name from the  
4 certification list.

5 3. If at a hearing under subd. 1. the court or family circuit court commissioner  
6 makes a written determination that alternative payment arrangements proposed by  
7 the department of workforce development or a child support agency are not  
8 reasonable, the court or family circuit court commissioner may order for the  
9 individual an alternative payment arrangement. If the court or family circuit court  
10 commissioner orders an alternative payment arrangement, the department of  
11 workforce development may not place the individual's name on a certification list.

12 **SECTION 42.** 49.858 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 49.858 (3) REVIEW OF FAMILY CIRCUIT COURT COMMISSIONER DECISIONS. If a family  
14 circuit court commissioner conducts a hearing in any administrative support  
15 enforcement proceeding under s. 49.852, 49.856 or 49.857, the department of  
16 workforce development or the obligor may, within 15 business days after the date  
17 that the family circuit court commissioner makes his or her decision, request review  
18 of the decision by the court with jurisdiction over the matter.

19 **SECTION 43.** 51.10 (4m) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 51.10 (4m) (d) If a patient admitted under par. (a) 1. has not signed a voluntary  
21 admission application within 7 days after admission, the patient, the guardian ad  
22 litem and the physician who signed the admission request shall appear before the  
23 judge or a circuit court commissioner ~~of the court~~ assigned to exercise probate  
24 jurisdiction for the county in which the facility is located to determine whether the  
25 patient shall remain in the facility as a voluntary patient. If the judge or circuit court

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1 commissioner determines that the patient desires to leave the facility, the facility  
2 shall discharge the patient. If the facility has reason to believe the patient is eligible  
3 for commitment under s. 51.20, the facility may initiate procedures for involuntary  
4 commitment.

5 **SECTION 44.** 51.20 (1) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 51.20 (1) (c) The petition shall contain the names and mailing addresses of the  
7 petitioners and their relation to the subject individual, and shall also contain the  
8 names and mailing addresses of the individual's spouse, adult children, parents or  
9 guardian, custodian, brothers, sisters, person in the place of a parent and person  
10 with whom the individual resides or lives. If this information is unknown to the  
11 petitioners or inapplicable, the petition shall so state. The petition may be filed in  
12 the court assigned to exercise probate jurisdiction for the county where the subject  
13 individual is present or the county of the individual's legal residence. If the judge of  
14 the court or a circuit court commissioner who handles probate matters is not  
15 available, the petition may be filed and the hearing under sub. (7) may be held before  
16 a judge or circuit court commissioner of any circuit court for the county. For the  
17 purposes of this chapter, duties to be performed by a court shall be carried out by the  
18 judge of the court or a circuit court commissioner of the court who is an attorney and  
19 is designated by the chief judge to so act, in all matters prior to a final hearing under  
20 this section. The petition shall contain a clear and concise statement of the facts  
21 which constitute probable cause to believe the allegations of the petition. The  
22 petition shall be sworn to be true. If a petitioner is not a petitioner having personal  
23 knowledge as provided in par. (b), the petition shall contain a statement providing  
24 the basis for his or her belief.

25 **SECTION 45.** 51.45 (12) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:



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1           51.45 (12) (b) (intro.) The physician, spouse, guardian or a relative of the person  
2 sought to be committed, or any other responsible person, may petition a circuit court  
3 commissioner or the circuit court of the county in which the person sought to be  
4 committed resides or is present for commitment under this subsection. The petition  
5 shall:

6           **SECTION 46.** 51.45 (12) (c) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

7           51.45 (12) (c) (intro.) Upon receipt of a petition under par. (b), the circuit court  
8 commissioner or court shall:

9           **SECTION 47.** 51.45 (12) (c) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

10          51.45 (12) (c) 1. Determine whether the petition and supporting affidavits  
11 sustain the grounds for commitment and dismiss the petition if the grounds for  
12 commitment are not sustained thereby. If the grounds for commitment are sustained  
13 by the petition and supporting affidavits, the court or circuit court commissioner  
14 shall issue an order temporarily committing the person to the custody of the county  
15 department pending the outcome of the preliminary hearing under sub. (13) (d).

16          **SECTION 48.** 51.45 (13) (dm) of the statutes is amended to read:

17          51.45 (13) (dm) For the purposes of this section, duties to be performed by a  
18 court shall be carried out by the judge of such court or a circuit court commissioner  
19 of such court who is ~~an attorney and~~ is designated by the chief judge to so act, in all  
20 matters prior to a final hearing under this subsection.

21          **SECTION 49.** 59.37 of the statutes is amended to read:

22          **59.37 Service when no coroner.** Whenever there is a vacancy in the office  
23 of coroner, or when the coroner is absent from the county, sick or unable to perform  
24 the duties of that office, or for any reason, except the nonpayment of legal fees,  
25 refuses to serve and execute legal process against the sheriff in any action

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1 commenced in any court of record within the county for which the coroner was or  
2 should have been elected, any judge of a court of record or circuit court commissioner  
3 of the county may, on proof of the vacancy, sickness, absence or refusal to serve and  
4 execute such process, by an order to be endorsed on such process and addressed to  
5 him or her, empower any citizen of the county in which such process is to be served  
6 and executed to serve and execute the same; and that order shall be sufficient  
7 authority to the person therein named to serve and execute such process with like  
8 powers, liabilities and fees as the coroner.

9 **SECTION 50.** 59.40 (2) (j) of the statutes is amended to read:

10 59.40 (2) (j) Keep a record called registers of officials and write or copy in the  
11 record in tabular form the names of circuit and supplemental court commissioners,  
12 deputy sheriffs, notaries public and municipal judges. The clerk shall list the  
13 officers' names, the dates of their qualification and the commencement and  
14 termination, if any, of their terms. The names shall be in alphabetical order or there  
15 shall be an index in alphabetical order to the names.

16 **SECTION 51.** 59.53 (5) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 59.53 (5) (a) The board shall contract with the department of workforce  
18 development to implement and administer the child and spousal support and  
19 establishment of paternity and the medical support liability programs provided for  
20 by Title IV of the federal social security act. The board may designate by board  
21 resolution any office, officer, board, department or agency, except the clerk of circuit  
22 court, as the county child support agency. The board or county child support agency  
23 shall implement and administer the programs in accordance with the contract with  
24 the department of workforce development. The attorneys responsible for support  
25 enforcement under sub. (6) (a), ~~family~~ circuit court ~~commissioner~~ commissioners and

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1 all other county officials shall cooperate with the county and the department of  
2 workforce development as necessary to provide the services required under the  
3 programs. The county shall charge the fee established by the department of  
4 workforce development under s. 49.22 for services provided under this paragraph to  
5 persons not receiving benefits under s. 49.148 or 49.155 or assistance under s.  
6 46.261, 49.19 or 49.47.

7 **SECTION 52.** 59.64 (1) (c) (title), 1. (intro.) and 2. of the statutes are amended  
8 to read:

9 59.64 (1) (c) (title) *Of circuit and supplemental court commissioners.* 1. (intro.)  
10 ~~Court~~ Circuit and supplemental court commissioners shall, on or before the first  
11 Monday of November in each year, forward to the clerk of their respective counties  
12 a correct statement of all actions or proceedings had before them, during the  
13 immediately preceding year, in which the county became liable for costs. The  
14 statement shall include all of the following:

15 2. The clerk shall file the statements described in subd. 1. in his or her office.  
16 Any circuit or supplemental court commissioner who neglects to make and return the  
17 statements within the time prescribed in subd. 1. shall not receive any compensation  
18 from the county for any service rendered by him or her in any criminal case or  
19 proceeding during the year next preceding the time when the statement is required  
20 to be made and returned.

21 **SECTION 53.** 59.64 (1) (d) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

22 59.64 (1) (d) *Of court officers; certification; audit by district attorney; waiver.*  
23 (intro.) Fees of officers, in any action or proceeding before a circuit or supplemental  
24 court commissioner, shall be certified to and allowed by the board in the following  
25 manner:

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**SECTION 54**

1           **SECTION 54.** 59.64 (1) (d) 1. (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           59.64 (1) (d) 1. (intro.) At least 10 days before the annual meeting of the board,  
3 every circuit and supplemental court commissioner shall make and file with the clerk  
4 a certified statement of all actions or proceedings had or tried before him or her  
5 within the year next preceding the date of the statement in which the state was a  
6 party and in which the county became liable for the fees of officers who appeared on  
7 the part of either the state or a defendant. The statement shall include all of the  
8 following:

9           **SECTION 55.** 59.64 (1) (d) 1m. (form) of the statutes is amended to read:

10          59.64 (1) (d) 1m. (form)

11          STATE OF WISCONSIN

12                   v.

13          ....

14          IN CIRCUIT COURT FOR .... COUNTY

15          Complaint for ....

16          Before ....., .... Circuit or Supplemental Court Commissioner.

17          Heard the .... day of ....., ....(year)

18          To the County Board of .... County:

19          I hereby certify that in the foregoing entitled action the following named  
20 persons rendered services and attended before me in the capacity stated. I further  
21 certify that the following named persons are severally entitled to the amounts  
22 specified below for services, attendance and travel, that the services were actually  
23 and necessarily rendered, and that the action was prosecuted in good faith:

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1           A.B. .... (constable or sheriff), actually and necessarily traveled in serving  
2           the .... herein, .... miles, and attended court .... days, and is entitled to \$.... for other  
3           just and lawful services in the cause, and in all is entitled to \$.....

4           Dated this .... day of ....., .... (year)

5           **SECTION 56.** 59.64 (1) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

6           59.64 (1) (e) *Fees for statements and certificates.* Every circuit or supplemental  
7           court commissioner shall receive from the treasurer \$1 per page for making  
8           statements and returns required by par. (c) and \$1 for making each certificate  
9           required by par. (d). All such statements and certificates shall be transmitted to the  
10          clerk by certified mail and for transmitting the statements and certificates the circuit  
11          or supplemental court commissioner shall receive \$1.

12          **SECTION 57.** 59.64 (1) (f) of the statutes is amended to read:

13          59.64 (1) (f) *Court Circuit and supplemental court commissioners.* The board  
14          at any session thereof may as provided in par. (d) 2. examine and allow any  
15          statement, account or claim of any circuit or supplemental court commissioner which  
16          is on file with the clerk before the opening of the session of the board.

17          **SECTION 58.** 59.64 (1) (g) 4. of the statutes is amended to read:

18          59.64 (1) (g) 4. Any judge or circuit or supplemental court commissioner, juror,  
19          witness, interpreter, attorney, guardian ad litem or recipient of transcript fees who  
20          makes, signs or endorses any such certificate or order which is untrue in respect to  
21          anything material, which he or she knows to be false, or which he or she does not have  
22          good reason to believe is true, shall be punished as provided in s. 946.12.

23          **SECTION 59.** 59.79 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

24          59.79 (5) **FEE FOR CERTAIN MARRIAGE CEREMONIES.** Enact an ordinance imposing  
25          a fee to be paid in advance to the clerk for each marriage ceremony performed by a

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1 judge or a circuit or supplemental court commissioner specified in s. 765.16 (5) in the  
2 courthouse, safety building or children's court center during hours when any office  
3 in those public buildings is open for the transaction of business. The amount of the  
4 fee shall be determined by the board.

5 **SECTION 60.** 63.03 (2) (z) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 63.03 (2) (z) ~~Full-time~~ Circuit court commissioners under s. 757.68 (1)  
7 employed on a full-time basis.

8 **SECTION 61.** 69.15 (3m) (a) 3. and 4. of the statutes are amended to read:

9 69.15 (3m) (a) 3. Except as provided in subd. 4, the person rescinding the  
10 statement files the document under subd. 2. before the day on which a court or ~~family~~  
11 circuit court commissioner makes an order in an action affecting the family involving  
12 the man who signed the statement and the child who is the subject of the statement  
13 or before 60 days elapse after the statement was filed, whichever occurs first.

14 4. If the person rescinding the statement was under age 18 when the statement  
15 was filed, the person files the document under subd. 2. before the day on which a  
16 court or ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner makes an order in an action affecting the  
17 family involving the man who signed the statement as the father of the registrant  
18 and the child who is the subject of the statement or before 60 days elapse after the  
19 person attains age 18, whichever occurs first.

20 **SECTION 62.** 75.43 of the statutes is amended to read:

21 **75.43 Election to receive deposit; costs.** The county may, at any time  
22 within 20 days after receiving an answer showing that a deposit has been made by  
23 any defendant or defendants as provided in s. 75.42, give notice to such defendant  
24 or defendants that it elects to receive such deposit and that it will, at a time specified  
25 in such notice, apply to the clerk of the circuit court, circuit judge or a circuit court

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1 commissioner to adjust the costs and disbursements which said defendant or  
2 defendants ought to pay, and that upon the payment of the costs and disbursements  
3 so adjudged the county will release to such defendant or defendants all right, title  
4 and claim which it has to the parcel or parcels of land on account of which ~~such~~ the  
5 deposit is made by virtue of any deed made for the nonpayment of taxes; and unless  
6 ~~such~~ the costs are paid within 20 days after the same shall have been so adjusted the  
7 clerk of the court shall, upon presentation of an affidavit showing the nonpayment  
8 thereof, enter judgment therefor in favor of the county and against the defendant,  
9 which shall be enforced as other money judgments.

10 **SECTION 63.** 101.02 (5) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

11 101.02 (5) (c) In the discharge of his or her duties such agent shall have every  
12 power of an inquisitorial nature granted in this subchapter to the department, the  
13 same powers as a supplemental court commissioner with regard to the taking of  
14 depositions and all powers granted by law to a supplemental court commissioner  
15 relative to depositions.

16 **SECTION 64.** 103.005 (5) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 103.005 (5) (c) In the discharge of his or her duties such agent shall have every  
18 power of an inquisitorial nature granted in chs. 103 to 106 to the department, the  
19 same powers as a supplemental court commissioner with regard to the taking of  
20 depositions and all powers granted by law to a supplemental court commissioner  
21 relative to depositions.

22 **SECTION 65.** 133.10 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 133.10 (1) The examination of any party, or if a corporation or limited liability  
24 company be a party, of the president, secretary, other principal officer or the general  
25 managing agent thereof, or of the person who was such president, secretary, officer

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1 or agent at the time of the occurrence of the facts made the subject of the  
2 examination, or of any person acting for another or for a corporation, limited liability  
3 company or partnership, other than as a witness on a trial, may be taken by  
4 deposition at the instance of the department of justice in any such action or  
5 proceeding at any time between the commencement thereof and final judgment.  
6 Such deposition shall be taken within the state before a judge at chambers or a  
7 supplemental court commissioner on previous notice to such party and any other  
8 adverse party or the attorney thereof of at least 5 days, and may be taken without  
9 the state.

10 **SECTION 66.** 133.11 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

11 133.11 (1) Whenever the attorney general files with any supplemental court  
12 commissioner a statement that the attorney general has reason to believe and does  
13 believe that a violation of this chapter has occurred, the commissioner shall issue a  
14 subpoena or a subpoena requiring the production of materials as requested by the  
15 department of justice. Mileage or witness fees are not required to be paid in advance  
16 but claims for such mileage and fees duly verified and approved by the department  
17 of justice shall be audited and paid out of the state treasury and charged to the  
18 appropriation provided by s. 20.455 (1) (d), and shall be at the same rates as  
19 witnesses in the circuit court.

20 **SECTION 67.** 133.11 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

21 133.11 (3) The supplemental court commissioner shall be entitled to the fees  
22 as provided in s. 814.68 (1). All such fees and all other costs and expenses incident  
23 to the inquiry shall be paid out of the appropriation provided by s. 20.455 (1) (d).

24 **SECTION 68.** 171.04 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:



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1           171.04 (1) If any property delivered to any forwarding merchant, wharfinger  
2 or warehouse keeper, for carriage or storage, is in a state of decay or manifestly liable  
3 to immediate damage and decay, the person in whose custody the property is, the  
4 person's agent or attorney, may make an affidavit of this fact, and present the  
5 affidavit to a circuit judge or supplemental court commissioner for the county in  
6 which the property is located, and the circuit judge or supplemental court  
7 commissioner shall immediately make an order requiring the sheriff or any  
8 constable of the county to immediately inspect the property, and directing him or her,  
9 if it is found to be in a state of decay or manifestly liable to immediate damage or  
10 decay, to summarily sell the property without notice.

11           **SECTION 69.** 171.04 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

12           171.04 (2) If the sheriff or constable, upon inspection, finds the property to be  
13 in a state of decay, or manifestly liable to immediate damage or decay, the sheriff or  
14 constable shall attach to the order his or her affidavit stating such fact, and shall  
15 make an inventory of the property, and shall summarily sell the property without  
16 notice, and shall make full return of the sheriff's or constable's execution of the order  
17 to the judge or supplemental court commissioner who issued the same, together with  
18 the sheriff's or constable's affidavit, inventory and the proceeds of said sale, after  
19 deducting the sheriff's or constable's fees therefrom.

20           **SECTION 70.** 171.04 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

21           171.04 (3) From the proceeds of such sale, the judge or supplemental court  
22 commissioner shall pay all legal charges that have been incurred in relation to the  
23 property, or a ratable proportion of each charge if the proceeds of the sale are not  
24 sufficient to pay all the charges; and the balance, if any, the judge or supplemental  
25 court commissioner shall immediately pay over to the treasurer of the judge's or

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1 commissioner's county, with a copy of all the proceedings in the matter. The county  
2 treasurer shall file the copy in his or her office.

3 **SECTION 71.** 171.05 of the statutes is amended to read:

4 **171.05 Perishable property, held otherwise, how disposed of.** If any  
5 property is perishable or subject to decay by keeping, the person in whose custody  
6 the property is, the person's agent or attorney, may make an affidavit of this fact and  
7 present the affidavit to a circuit judge or supplemental court commissioner for the  
8 county in which the property is located, and the judge or supplemental court  
9 commissioner shall immediately make an order requiring the sheriff or any  
10 constable of the county to immediately inspect the property, and if it is found to be  
11 perishable or subject to decay by keeping, to make and return an affidavit of this fact.  
12 Upon the return of this affidavit, the judge or supplemental court commissioner  
13 making the order shall immediately issue an order requiring the sheriff or constable  
14 to sell the property at public auction, giving notice of the time and place of the sale  
15 by publication of a class 1 notice, under ch. 985, and serving upon the consignor, the  
16 consignee and the custodian of the property, if they are known, a copy of the notice  
17 by mail. The sheriff or constable shall, at the time and place fixed by the notice,  
18 unless the property has been otherwise lawfully disposed of, sell the property at  
19 public auction, and shall make full return of his or her execution of the order, and  
20 return the same with an inventory of the property and the proceeds of the sale, after  
21 deducting his or her fees, to the judge or supplemental court commissioner making  
22 the order. From the proceeds of the sale, the judge or supplemental court  
23 commissioner shall pay all legal charges that have been incurred in relation to the  
24 property, or a ratable proportion of each charge, if the proceeds of the sale are not  
25 sufficient to pay all the charges; and the balance, if any, the judge or supplemental

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1 court commissioner shall immediately pay over to the treasurer of the county, with  
2 a copy of all the proceedings in the matter. The county treasurer shall file the copy  
3 in his or her office. The person in whose custody the property is when the proceedings  
4 for the sale were commenced, shall immediately notify the consignor and consignee  
5 of the sale, in writing which shall be served by leaving a copy with the consignor and  
6 consignee personally or by mail.

7 **SECTION 72.** 171.06 of the statutes is amended to read:

8 **171.06 Unclaimed property, how disposed of.** When any property is not  
9 perishable or subject to decay and is not claimed and taken away within one year  
10 after it was received, it may be sold as follows: The person in whose custody the  
11 property is, or the person's agent or attorney, may make an affidavit of the facts and  
12 present the same to a judge or supplemental court commissioner of the county in  
13 which the property is located and such judge or supplemental court commissioner  
14 shall immediately issue an order requiring the sheriff or any constable of the county  
15 to sell the property at public auction, giving 60 days' notice of the time and place of  
16 the sale to the consignor, the consignee and the custodian of the property. This notice  
17 shall be in writing and served personally or by mail upon the persons whose names  
18 and residences are known. If the name or residence of any of the persons is unknown  
19 and cannot be ascertained with reasonable diligence, the sheriff or constable shall  
20 make an affidavit of this fact and shall publish a class 3 notice, under ch. 985, in the  
21 county. At the time and place of the sale the sheriff or constable shall sell the property  
22 at public auction and shall make a full return of the sheriff's or constable's  
23 proceedings under the order to the judge or supplemental court commissioner  
24 issuing the order, together with proof of service or publication of the notice of the sale,  
25 and an inventory of the property sold and the proceeds of the sale after deducting the

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1 sheriff's or constable's fees. From the proceeds of the sale the judge or supplemental  
2 court commissioner shall pay all legal charges that have been incurred in relation  
3 to the property, including the charges of the person in whose custody the property  
4 was when the proceedings were begun, or a ratable proportion of each charge if the  
5 proceeds of the sale are not sufficient to pay all of the charges; ~~and the balance, if any,~~  
6 ~~the.~~ The judge or supplemental court commissioner shall immediately pay any  
7 balance remaining over to the treasurer of his or her county, with a copy of all  
8 proceedings in the matter. The county treasurer shall file the copy in his or her office.  
9 The person in whose custody the property is when any proceeding for the sale is  
10 commenced, shall immediately notify the consignor and consignee of the sale, in  
11 writing, and served by leaving a copy thereof with the consignor and consignee,  
12 personally or by mail.

13 **SECTION 73.** 196.24 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 196.24 (2) In the discharge of his or her duties, an agent appointed under sub.  
15 (1) shall have any inquisitional power granted to the commission and the power of  
16 a supplemental court commissioner to take depositions under s. ~~757.69 (3)~~ 757.675  
17 (2) (b).

18 **SECTION 74.** 196.675 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 196.675 (3) This section does not apply to circuit or supplemental court  
20 commissioners.

21 **SECTION 75.** 563.71 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

22 563.71 (1) (a) Whenever the attorney general files with a circuit or  
23 supplemental court commissioner a statement that the attorney general believes  
24 that a violation of this chapter has occurred, the commissioner shall issue a subpoena  
25 for any person requested or named by the attorney general. Mileage and witness fees

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1 need not be paid in advance, but only verified claims for mileage and fees which are  
2 approved by the attorney general shall be paid out of the state treasury and charged  
3 to the appropriation under s. 20.455 (1) (d) and shall be the same rates as those paid  
4 witnesses in circuit court.

5 **SECTION 76.** 563.71 (1) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 563.71 (1) (c) The supplemental court commissioner shall be entitled to the fees  
7 under s. 814.68 (1). All such fees and all other costs and expenses incident to such  
8 inquiry shall be paid out of the appropriation under s. 20.455 (1) (d).

9 **SECTION 77.** 753.175 of the statutes is repealed.

10 **SECTION 78.** 757.001 of the statutes is created to read:

11 **757.001 Definitions.** In this chapter:

12 (1) "Circuit court commissioner" means a person appointed under SCR 75.02  
13 (1) and a supplemental court commissioner authorized under SCR 75.02 (3) to the  
14 limited extent of that authorization.

15 (2) "Supplemental court commissioner" means a person appointed under s.  
16 757.675 (1).

17 **SECTION 79.** 757.01 (4) of the statutes is created to read:

18 757.01 (4) To exercise any of the powers and duties of a circuit court  
19 commissioner.

20 **SECTION 80.** 757.23 of the statutes is amended to read:

21 **757.23 Court commissioner, when disqualified.** A municipal court  
22 commissioner, a circuit, or supplemental court commissioner, or any judge acting as  
23 a court commissioner, shall not act or take part in the decision of, or make any order  
24 in any matter or proceeding in which he or she is a party, or in which his or her rights  
25 would be in any manner affected by his or her decision or order thereon, or in which

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1 he or she is interested, or in which his or her law partner, or any person connected  
2 with him or her as employer, employee or clerk, or in the law business in any manner,  
3 shall be interested or appear as a party, agent, attorney or counsel. Any municipal  
4 ~~court commissioner, circuit, or supplemental~~ court commissioner or judge, acting as  
5 a court commissioner, violating this section shall forfeit \$25 for each violation, and  
6 shall also be subject to removal from office.

7 **SECTION 81.** 757.24 of the statutes is amended to read:

8 **757.24 Liability of judicial officers.** Circuit judges and circuit and  
9 supplemental court commissioners shall be held personally liable to any party  
10 injured for any ~~wilfull~~ willful violation of the law in granting injunctions and  
11 appointing receivers, or for refusing to hear motions to dissolve injunctions and to  
12 discharge receivers if the motions are made in accordance with law or such rules as  
13 are promulgated by the supreme court.

14 **SECTION 82.** 757.30 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

15 757.30 (2) Every person who appears as agent, representative or attorney, for  
16 or on behalf of any other person, or any firm, partnership, association or corporation  
17 in any action or proceeding in or before any court of record, circuit or supplemental  
18 court commissioner, or judicial tribunal of the United States, or of any state, or who  
19 otherwise, in or out of court, for compensation or pecuniary reward gives professional  
20 legal advice not incidental to his or her usual or ordinary business, or renders any  
21 legal service for any other person, or any firm, partnership, association or  
22 corporation, shall be deemed to be practicing law within the meaning of this section.

23 **SECTION 83.** 757.675 (title) of the statutes is created to read:

24 **757.675 (title) Supplemental court commissioners.**

25 **SECTION 84.** 757.68 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           **757.68** (title) **Court Circuit court commissioners.**

2           **SECTION 85.** 757.68 (1) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

3           757.68 (1) Subject to subs. (2m) to (5m), in every county organized for judicial  
4 purposes, the county board shall establish the number of circuit court commissioner  
5 positions necessary for the efficient administration of judicial business within the  
6 circuit courts of the county. The circuit court commissioners may be employed on a  
7 full-time or part-time basis. Chapter 75 of the supreme court rules shall govern the  
8 qualifications for, and appointment, supervision, training, evaluation, and discipline  
9 of, circuit court commissioners. Any person qualified and acting as a judicial court  
10 commissioner on August 1, 1978, shall be considered a circuit court commissioner  
11 and shall continue in the classified county civil service but any person appointed as  
12 a court commissioner after August 1, 1978, shall be in the unclassified civil service.  
13 Each circuit court commissioner shall take and file the official oath in the office of  
14 the clerk of the circuit court of the county for which appointed before performing any  
15 duty of the office.

16           **SECTION 86.** 757.68 (2) (title) of the statutes is repealed.

17           **SECTION 87.** 757.68 (2) of the statutes is renumbered 757.675 (1) and amended  
18 to read:

19           757.675 (1) In each county the circuit judges shall appoint such number of  
20 ~~part-time~~ supplemental court commissioners as the proper transaction of business  
21 requires ~~subject to the following exception:, except that~~ in counties having a  
22 population of 200,000 or more each judge may appoint not more than 2 such  
23 supplemental court commissioners and in counties having a population of less than  
24 200,000 each judge shall, as nearly as possible, appoint an equal number of  
25 supplemental court commissioners within the county. In all counties the

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1 appointments shall be subject to the approval of a majority of the circuit judges for  
2 the county. Appointments shall be in writing and shall be filed in the office of the  
3 clerk of the circuit court. All supplemental court commissioners appointed after May  
4 16, 1978, ~~other than official court reporters acting under s. 814.68 (1) (b) performing~~  
5 ~~duties or exercising powers specified for court reporters,~~ shall be attorneys licensed  
6 to practice in this state. The appointing judge may remove, at will and without cause,  
7 any supplemental court commissioner appointed by the judge or the judge's  
8 predecessor in office. Unless he or she is so removed, the term of each supplemental  
9 court commissioner shall continue until the expiration of the term of the appointing  
10 judge and until the successor of the commissioner is appointed and qualified. Each  
11 supplemental court commissioner shall take and file the official oath in the office of  
12 clerk of the circuit court of the county for which appointed before performing any  
13 duty of the office.

14 **SECTION 88.** 757.68 (3), (4) and (5) (title) of the statutes are repealed.

15 **SECTION 89.** 757.68 (5) of the statutes is renumbered 757.675 (6) and amended  
16 to read:

17 757.675 (6) ~~Part-time~~ Supplemental court commissioners appointed under  
18 sub. (2) (1) shall collect the fees prescribed in s. 814.68 (1).

19 **SECTION 90.** 757.68 (5m) of the statutes is created to read:

20 757.68 (5m) In counties having a population of 500,000 or more, the county  
21 board shall establish at least one circuit court commissioner position on a full-time  
22 basis to assist in small claims matters under ch. 799. In counties having a population  
23 of less than 500,000, the county board may establish one or more circuit court  
24 commissioner positions on a part-time or full-time basis to assist in small claims  
25 matters under ch. 799.



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1           **SECTION 91.** 757.68 (6) of the statutes is created to read:

2           757.68 (6) The county board shall set the salary of persons appointed as circuit  
3 court commissioners. The county board shall furnish circuit court commissioners  
4 with necessary office space, furnishings, supplies, and services.

5           **SECTION 92.** 757.68 (7) of the statutes is created to read:

6           757.68 (7) The chief judge of the judicial administrative district may assign law  
7 clerks, bailiffs, and deputies to a circuit court commissioner. The chief judge shall  
8 supervise those law clerks, bailiffs, and deputies assigned to the court, except that  
9 the chief judge may delegate that authority.

10          **SECTION 93.** 757.69 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

11          **757.69 (title) Powers and duties of circuit court commissioners.**

12          **SECTION 94.** 757.69 (1) (intro.) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

13          757.69 (1) (intro.) A circuit court commissioner may:

14          **SECTION 95.** 757.69 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

15          757.69 (1) (b) In criminal matters issue summonses, arrest warrants or search  
16 warrants ~~and, determine probable cause to support a warrantless arrest,~~ conduct  
17 initial appearances of persons arrested ~~and, set bail to the same extent as a judge.~~  
18 ~~At the initial appearance, the court commissioner shall, when necessary, inform the~~  
19 ~~defendant in accordance with s. 970.02 (1). ~~If the defendant appears or claims to be~~~~  
20 ~~unable to afford counsel, the court commissioner, in accordance with s. 970.02 (6),~~  
21 ~~may, and~~ refer the person to the authority for indigency determinations specified  
22 under s. 977.07 (1). ~~If the court commissioner is a full-time~~ A circuit court  
23 ~~commissioner, he or she employed on a full-time basis~~ may conduct the preliminary  
24 examination and arraignment ~~to the same extent as a judge and, with the consent~~  
25 of both the state and the defendant, ~~may~~ accept a guilty plea. If a court refers a

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1       disputed restitution issue under s. 973.20 (13) (c) 4., the circuit court commissioner  
2       shall conduct the hearing on the matter in accordance with s. 973.20 (13) (c) 4.

3               **SECTION 96.** 757.69 (1) (g) of the statutes is renumbered 757.69 (1) (g) (intro.)  
4       and amended to read:

5               757.69 (1) (g) (intro.) When assigned to the assist a court assigned jurisdiction  
6       ~~under chs. 48 and 938, a court commissioner may, under ch. 48 or 938, issue in~~ in  
7       juvenile matters:

8               1. Issue summonses and warrants, ~~order.~~

9               2. Order the release or detention of children or expectant mothers of unborn  
10       children taken into custody, ~~conduct.~~

11              3. Conduct detention and shelter care hearings, ~~conduct.~~

12              4. Conduct preliminary appearances, ~~conduct.~~

13              5. Conduct uncontested proceedings under ~~ss. s.~~ 48.13, 48.133, 938.12, 938.13  
14       and, ~~or~~ 938.18, enter.

15              6. Enter into consent decrees and ~~exercise.~~

16              7. Exercise the powers and perform the duties specified in par. (j) or (m),  
17       whichever is applicable, in proceedings under s. 813.122 or 813.125 in which the  
18       respondent is a child. ~~Contested waiver hearings under s. 938.18 and dispositional~~  
19       ~~hearings under ss. 48.335 and 938.335 shall be conducted by a judge. When acting~~  
20       ~~in an official capacity and assigned to the children's court center, a court~~  
21       ~~commissioner shall sit at the children's court center or such other facility designated~~  
22       ~~by the chief judge. Any decision by the commissioner shall be reviewed by the judge~~  
23       ~~of the branch of court to which the case has been assigned, upon motion of any party.~~  
24       ~~Any determination, order or ruling by the commissioner may be certified to the~~

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1 ~~branch of court to which such case has been assigned upon a motion of any party for~~  
2 ~~a hearing de novo.~~

3 **SECTION 97.** 757.69 (1) (g) 8. to 13. of the statutes are created to read:

4 757.69 (1) (g) 8. Conduct hearings under s. 48.21 or 938.21 and thereafter order  
5 a child or juvenile held in or released from custody.

6 9. Conduct hearings under s. 48.213 and thereafter order an adult expectant  
7 mother of an unborn child to be held in or released from custody.

8 10. Conduct plea hearings.

9 11. Conduct prehearing conferences.

10 12. Issue orders requiring compliance with deferred prosecution agreements.

11 13. Conduct all proceedings on petitions or citations under s. 938.125.

12 **SECTION 98.** 757.69 (1) (j) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 757.69 (1) (j) Hold hearings, make findings and issue temporary restraining  
14 orders under s. 813.122 or 813.123.

15 **SECTION 99.** 757.69 (1) (k) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

16 757.69 (1) (k) Administer oaths, take, certify, and report depositions and  
17 testimony, take and certify acknowledgments, allow accounts, and fix the amount  
18 and approve the sufficiency of bonds.

19 **SECTION 100.** 757.69 (1) (m) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 757.69 (1) (m) Hold hearings, make findings, and issue temporary restraining  
21 orders and injunctions under s. 813.12 or 813.125.

22 **SECTION 101.** 757.69 (1m) of the statutes is created to read:

23 757.69 (1m) Circuit court commissioners assigned to assist a court in juvenile  
24 matters shall sit at the children's court center, the usual court facility for juvenile

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1 matters, or such other facility designated by the chief judge of the judicial  
2 administrative district. Those commissioners may not do any of the following:

3 (a) Conduct fact-finding or dispositional hearings except on petitions or  
4 citations under s. 938.125 and except as provided in sub. (1) (g) 5.

5 (b) Make dispositions other than approving consent decrees, ordering  
6 compliance with deferred prosecution agreements and ordering dispositions in  
7 uncontested proceedings under s. 48.13, 48.133, 938.12, or 938.13.

8 (c) Conduct hearings for the termination of parental rights or for adoptions.

9 (d) Make changes in placements of children, of juveniles, or of the expectant  
10 mothers of unborn children, or revisions or extensions of dispositional orders, except  
11 pursuant to petitions or citations under s. 938.125 and in uncontested proceedings  
12 under s. 48.13, 48.133, 938.12, or 938.13.

13 (e) Conduct hearings, make findings, or issue orders in proceedings under s.  
14 48.977 or 48.978.

15 (f) Conduct waiver hearings under s. 938.18, except as provided in sub. (1) (g)  
16 5.

17 (g) Make any dispositional order under s. 938.34 (4d), (4h), or (4m).

18 **SECTION 102.** 757.69 (2) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 757.69 (2) (intro.) A judge may refer to a circuit court commissioner appointed  
20 under s. ~~48.065, 757.68, 757.72, 767.13 or 938.065~~ cases in which:

21 **SECTION 103.** 757.69 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

22 757.69 (2) (a) The trial of an issue of fact requires the examination of an  
23 account, in which case the circuit court commissioner may be directed to report upon  
24 any specific question of fact involved therein.

25 **SECTION 104.** 757.69 (2m) of the statutes is created to read:

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1           757.69 (2m) Circuit court commissioners may exercise, under their own  
2 authority, all of the powers listed under s. 757.675 (2) to (5).

3           **SECTION 105.** 757.69 (3) of the statutes is renumbered 757.675 (2), and 757.675  
4 (2) (intro.) and (g), as renumbered, are amended to read:

5           757.675 (2) (intro.) ~~Court~~ Supplemental court commissioners appointed under  
6 s. ~~48.065, 757.68, 757.72, 767.13 or 938.065~~ may, under their own authority:

7           (g) Except as provided in s. ~~767.13 (5) (e)~~ 757.69 (1) (p) 3., conduct a paternity  
8 proceeding according to the procedures set out in ch. 767 whenever a circuit court  
9 commissioner is specifically authorized to do so.

10          **SECTION 106.** 757.69 (4) and (5) of the statutes are renumbered 757.675 (3) and  
11 (4) and amended to read:

12          757.675 (3) In addition to the duties expressly set forth in sub. (3) (2) (a) to (e)  
13 (i), a supplemental court commissioner may perform other ministerial duties as  
14 required by a court.

15          (4) A supplemental court commissioner may transfer to a court any matter in  
16 which it appears that justice would be better served by such a transfer.

17          **SECTION 107.** 757.69 (6) of the statutes is repealed.

18          **SECTION 108.** 757.69 (7) of the statutes is renumbered 757.675 (5) and amended  
19 to read:

20          757.675 (5) A supplemental court commissioner shall refer to a court of record  
21 for appropriate action every alleged showing of contempt in the carrying out of the  
22 lawful decisions of the supplemental court commissioner.

23          **SECTION 109.** 757.69 (8) of the statutes is created to read:

24          757.69 (8) Any decision of a circuit court commissioner shall be reviewed by the  
25 judge of the branch of court to which the case has been assigned, upon motion of any

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1 party. Any determination, order, or ruling by a circuit court commissioner may be  
2 certified to the branch of court to which the case has been assigned, upon a motion  
3 of any party for a hearing de novo.

4 **SECTION 110.** 757.695 of the statutes is repealed.

5 **SECTION 111.** 757.70 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 757.70 (2) All hearings before a circuit or supplemental court commissioner  
7 shall be held in the county courthouse or other court facilities provided by law. This  
8 provision does not apply to nontestimonial proceedings, supplementary hearings on  
9 the present financial status of a debtor under s. ~~757.69 (3)~~ 757.675 (2) (h) or  
10 depositions taken before a circuit or supplemental court commissioner.

11 **SECTION 112.** 757.72 (title) of the statutes is repealed.

12 **SECTION 113.** 757.72 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 757.68 (4m) and  
13 amended to read:

14 757.68 (4m) In counties having a population of 500,000 or more, there is  
15 created in the classified civil service a circuit court commissioner position to  
16 supervise the office of probate court commissioner and to assist the court in probate  
17 matters. In counties having a population of at least 100,000 but not more than  
18 500,000, the county board may create a circuit court commissioner position to  
19 supervise the office of probate court commissioner ~~which~~ and to assist in probate  
20 matters. That position may be in the classified civil service. If the chief judge  
21 delegates that authority to a judge assigned to probate jurisdiction, that judge may  
22 assign to the circuit court commissioner any matters over which the judge has  
23 jurisdiction, and the circuit court commissioner may determine such matters and  
24 may sign any order or certificate required by that determination.

25 **SECTION 114.** 757.72 (2) of the statutes is repealed.

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1           **SECTION 115.** 757.72 (3) of the statutes is repealed.

2           **SECTION 116.** 757.72 (4) of the statutes is repealed.

3           **SECTION 117.** 757.72 (5) of the statutes is renumbered 851.73 (1) (g) and  
4 amended to read:

5           851.73 (1) (g) ~~The register in probate of a county shall~~ Shall have the duties and  
6 powers of a circuit court commissioner assigned to assist in probate matters and shall  
7 act in that capacity when designated to do so by a judge assigned probate jurisdiction.

8           **SECTION 118.** 757.72 (6) of the statutes is repealed.

9           **SECTION 119.** 757.72 (7) of the statutes is repealed.

10          **SECTION 120.** 757.72 (8) of the statutes is repealed.

11          **SECTION 121.** 757.81 (2) of the statutes is repealed.

12          **SECTION 122.** 757.81 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

13          757.81 (6) “Permanent disability” means a physical or mental incapacity which  
14 impairs the ability of a judge or circuit or supplemental court commissioner to  
15 substantially perform the duties of his or her judicial office and which is or is likely  
16 to be of a permanent or continuing nature.

17          **SECTION 123.** 757.85 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

18          757.85 (1) (a) The commission shall investigate any possible misconduct or  
19 permanent disability of a judge or circuit or supplemental court commissioner.  
20 Misconduct constitutes cause under article VII, section 11, of the constitution.  
21 Except as provided in par. (b), judges, circuit or supplemental court commissioners,  
22 clerks, court reporters, court employes and attorneys shall comply with requests by  
23 the commission for information, documents and other materials relating to an  
24 investigation under this section.

25          **SECTION 124.** 757.85 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 124**

1           757.85 (1) (b) The judge or circuit or supplemental court commissioner who is  
2 under investigation is not subject to the request procedure under par. (a) but is  
3 subject to the subpoena procedure under sub. (2).

4           **SECTION 125.** 757.85 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

5           757.85 (3) The commission may notify a judge or circuit or supplemental court  
6 commissioner that the commission is investigating possible misconduct by or  
7 permanent disability of the judge or circuit or supplemental court commissioner.  
8 Before finding probable cause, the commission shall notify the judge or circuit or  
9 supplemental court commissioner of the substance of the complaint or petition and  
10 afford the judge or circuit or supplemental court commissioner a reasonable  
11 opportunity to respond. If the judge or circuit or supplemental court commissioner  
12 responds, the commission shall consider the response before it finds probable cause.

13           **SECTION 126.** 757.85 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

14           757.85 (4) The commission may require a judge or circuit or supplemental court  
15 commissioner who is under investigation for permanent disability to submit to a  
16 medical examination arranged by the commission.

17           **SECTION 127.** 757.85 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

18           757.85 (5) The commission shall, upon a finding of probable cause that a judge  
19 or circuit or supplemental court commissioner has engaged or is engaging in  
20 misconduct, file a formal complaint with the supreme court. Upon a finding of  
21 probable cause that a judge or circuit or supplemental court commissioner has a  
22 permanent disability, the commission shall file a petition with the supreme court.  
23 If the commission requests a jury under s. 757.87 (1), the request shall be attached  
24 to the formal complaint or the petition.

25           **SECTION 128.** 757.87 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:



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1           757.87 (1) After the commission has found probable cause that a judge or  
2 circuit or supplemental court commissioner has engaged in misconduct or has a  
3 permanent disability, and before the commission files a formal complaint or a  
4 petition under s. 757.85 (5), the commission may, by a majority of its total  
5 membership not disqualified from voting, request a jury hearing. If a jury is not  
6 requested, the matter shall be heard by a panel constituted under sub. (3). The vote  
7 of each member on the question of a jury request shall be recorded and shall be  
8 available for public inspection under s. 19.35 after the formal complaint or the  
9 petition is filed.

10           **SECTION 129.** 757.89 of the statutes is amended to read:

11           **757.89 Hearing.** A record shall be kept of any hearing on a formal complaint  
12 or a petition. The allegations of the complaint or petition must be proven to a  
13 reasonable certainty by evidence that is clear, satisfactory and convincing. The  
14 hearing shall be held in the county where the judge or circuit or supplemental court  
15 commissioner resides unless the presiding judge changes venue for cause shown or  
16 unless the parties otherwise agree. If the hearing is by a panel, the panel shall make  
17 findings of fact, conclusions of law and recommendations regarding appropriate  
18 discipline for misconduct or appropriate action for permanent disability and file the  
19 findings, conclusions and recommendations with the supreme court. If a jury  
20 hearing is requested under s. 757.87 (1), the presiding judge shall instruct the jury  
21 regarding the law applicable to judicial misconduct or permanent disability, as  
22 appropriate. The presiding judge shall file the jury verdict and his or her  
23 recommendations regarding appropriate discipline for misconduct or appropriate  
24 action for permanent disability with the supreme court.

25           **SECTION 130.** 757.93 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 130**

1           757.93 (1) (a) All proceedings under ss. 757.81 to 757.99 relating to misconduct  
2 or permanent disability prior to the filing of a petition or formal complaint by the  
3 commission are confidential unless a judge or circuit or supplemental court  
4 commissioner waives the right to confidentiality in writing to the commission. Any  
5 such waiver does not affect the confidentiality of the identity of a person providing  
6 information under par. (b).

7           **SECTION 131.** 757.93 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

8           757.93 (1) (b) Any person who provides information to the commission  
9 concerning possible misconduct or permanent disability may request that the  
10 commission not disclose his or her identity to the judge or circuit or supplemental  
11 court commissioner prior to the filing of a petition or a formal complaint by the  
12 commission.

13           **SECTION 132.** 757.93 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

14           757.93 (2) If prior to the filing of a formal complaint or a petition an  
15 investigation of possible misconduct or permanent disability becomes known to the  
16 public, the commission may issue statements in order to confirm the pendency of the  
17 investigation, to clarify the procedural aspects of the disciplinary proceedings, to  
18 explain the right of the judge or circuit or supplemental court commissioner to a fair  
19 hearing without prejudgment, to state that the judge or circuit or supplemental court  
20 commissioner denies the allegations, to state that an investigation has been  
21 completed and no probable cause was found or to correct public misinformation.

22           **SECTION 133.** 757.93 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

23           757.93 (4) (a) Referring to the director of state courts information relating to  
24 an alleged delay or an alleged temporary disability of a judge or circuit or  
25 supplemental court commissioner.

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 134**

1           **SECTION 134.** 757.95 of the statutes is amended to read:

2           **757.95 Temporary suspension by supreme court.** The supreme court may,  
3 following the filing of a formal complaint or a petition by the commission, prohibit  
4 a judge or circuit or supplemental court commissioner from exercising the powers of  
5 a judge or circuit or supplemental court commissioner pending final determination  
6 of the proceedings.

7           **SECTION 135.** 757.99 of the statutes is amended to read:

8           **757.99 Attorney fees.** A judge or circuit or supplemental court commissioner  
9 against whom a petition alleging permanent disability is filed by the commission  
10 shall be reimbursed for reasonable attorney fees if the judge or circuit or  
11 supplemental court commissioner is found not to have a permanent disability. A  
12 judge or circuit or supplemental court commissioner against whom a formal  
13 complaint alleging misconduct is filed by the commission and who is found not to  
14 have engaged in misconduct may be reimbursed for reasonable attorney fees. Any  
15 judge or circuit or supplemental court commissioner seeking recovery of attorney  
16 fees authorized or required under this section shall file a claim with the claims board  
17 under s. 16.53.

18           **SECTION 136.** 765.11 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

19           765.11 (1) If any parent, grandparent, child, or natural guardian of a minor  
20 applicant for a marriage license, any brother, sister or guardian of either of the  
21 applicants for a marriage license, either of the applicants, the district attorney or the  
22 ~~family~~ a circuit court commissioner believes that the statements of the application  
23 are false or insufficient, or that the applicants or either of them are incompetent to  
24 marry, that person may file with the court having probate jurisdiction in the county  
25 in which the marriage license is applied for, a petition under oath, setting forth the

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 136**

1 grounds of objection to the marriage and asking for an order requiring the parties  
2 making such application to show cause why the marriage license should not be  
3 refused. Whereupon, the court, if satisfied that the grounds of objection are prima  
4 facie valid, shall issue an order to show cause as aforesaid, returnable as the court  
5 directs, but not more than 14 days after the date of the order, which shall be served  
6 forthwith upon the applicants for the marriage license residing in the state, and upon  
7 the clerk before whom the application has been made, and shall operate as a stay  
8 upon the issuance of the marriage license until further ordered; if either or both of  
9 the applicants are nonresidents of the state the order shall be served forthwith upon  
10 the nonresident by publication of a class 1 notice, under ch. 985, in the county  
11 wherein the application is pending, and by mailing a copy thereof to the nonresident  
12 at the address contained in the application.

13 **SECTION 137.** 765.11 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 765.11 (2) If, upon hearing, the court finds that the statements in the  
15 application are ~~wilfully~~ willfully false or insufficient, or that either or both of said  
16 parties are not competent in law to marry, the court shall make an order refusing the  
17 marriage license, and shall immediately report such matter to the district attorney.  
18 If said falseness or insufficiency is due merely to inadvertence, then the court shall  
19 permit the parties to amend the application so as to make the statements therein  
20 true and sufficient, and upon application being so amended, the marriage license  
21 shall be issued. If any party is unable to supply any of the information required in  
22 the application, the court may, if satisfied that such inability is not due to ~~wilfulness~~  
23 willfulness or negligence, order the marriage license to be issued notwithstanding  
24 such insufficiency. The costs and disbursements of the proceedings under this

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 137**

1 section shall rest in the discretion of the court, but none shall be taxed against any  
2 district attorney or family circuit court commissioner acting in good faith.

3 **SECTION 138.** 765.16 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 765.16 (5) Any ~~family court commissioner appointed under s. 767.13 or circuit~~  
5 court commissioner appointed under SCR 75.02 (1) or supplemental court  
6 commissioner appointed under s. ~~757.68~~ 757.675 (1).

7 **SECTION 139.** 767.045 (1) (c) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

8 767.045 (1) (c) (intro.) The attorney responsible for support enforcement under  
9 s. 59.53 (6) (a) may request that the court or family a circuit court commissioner  
10 appoint a guardian ad litem to bring an action or motion on behalf of a minor who  
11 is a nonmarital child whose paternity has not been acknowledged under s. 767.62 (1)  
12 or a substantially similar law of another state or adjudicated for the purpose of  
13 determining the paternity of the child, and the court or family circuit court  
14 commissioner shall appoint a guardian ad litem, if any of the following applies:

15 **SECTION 140.** 767.081 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 **767.081 (title) Information from the office of family court commissioner.**

17 **SECTION 141.** 767.081 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 767.081 (1) Upon the filing of an action affecting the family, the office of family  
19 court commissioner shall inform the parties of any services, including referral  
20 services, offered by the office of family court commissioner and by the director of  
21 family court counseling services under s. 767.11.

22 **SECTION 142.** 767.081 (2) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 767.081 (2) (a) (intro.) The office of family court commissioner shall, with or  
24 without charge, provide the party with written information on the following, as  
25 appropriate to the action commenced:

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 143**

1           **SECTION 143.** 767.081 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           767.081 (2) (b) The office of family court commissioner shall provide a party,  
3 for inspection or purchase, with a copy of the statutory provisions in this chapter  
4 generally pertinent to the action.

5           **SECTION 144.** 767.083 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

6           767.083 (2) An order by the court, after consideration of the recommendation  
7 of the ~~family~~ a circuit court commissioner, directing an immediate hearing on the  
8 petition for the protection of the health or safety of either of the parties or of any child  
9 of the marriage or for other emergency reasons consistent with the policies of this  
10 chapter. The court shall upon granting such order specify the grounds therefor.

11           **SECTION 145.** 767.085 (1) (i) of the statutes is amended to read:

12           767.085 (1) (i) If the action is one under s. 767.02 (1) (a), (b), (c), (d), (h) or (i),  
13 that during the pendency of the action, without the consent of the other party or an  
14 order of the court or ~~family~~ a circuit court commissioner, the parties are prohibited  
15 from, and may be held in contempt of court for, encumbering, concealing, damaging,  
16 destroying, transferring or otherwise disposing of property owned by either or both  
17 of the parties, except in the usual course of business, in order to secure necessities  
18 or in order to pay reasonable costs and expenses of the action, including attorney fees.

19           **SECTION 146.** 767.085 (1) (j) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

20           767.085 (1) (j) (intro.) Unless the action is one under s. 767.02 (1) (g) or (h), that  
21 during the pendency of the action, the parties are prohibited from, and may be held  
22 in contempt of court for, doing any of the following without the consent of the other  
23 party or an order of the court or ~~family~~ a circuit court commissioner:

24           **SECTION 147.** 767.085 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           767.085 (3) SERVICE. If only one party initiates the action, the other shall be  
2 served under ch. 801 and may serve a response or counterclaim within 20 days after  
3 the date of service, except that questions of jurisdiction may be raised at any time  
4 prior to judgment. Service shall be made upon the petitioner and upon the family  
5 circuit court commissioner as provided in s. 767.14, and the original copy of the  
6 response shall be filed in court. If the parties together initiate the action with a joint  
7 petition, service of summons is not required.

8           **SECTION 148.** 767.087 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

9           767.087 (1) (b) If the action is one under s. 767.02 (1) (a), (b), (c), (d), (h) or (i),  
10 encumbering, concealing, damaging, destroying, transferring or otherwise disposing  
11 of property owned by either or both of the parties, without the consent of the other  
12 party or an order of the court or family a circuit court commissioner, except in the  
13 usual course of business, in order to secure necessities or in order to pay reasonable  
14 costs and expenses of the action, including attorney fees.

15           **SECTION 149.** 767.087 (1) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

16           767.087 (1) (c) Unless the action is one under s. 767.02 (1) (g) or (h), without  
17 the consent of the other party or an order of the court or family a circuit court  
18 commissioner, establishing a residence with a minor child of the parties outside the  
19 state or more than 150 miles from the residence of the other party within the state,  
20 removing a minor child of the parties from the state for more than 90 consecutive  
21 days or concealing a minor child of the parties from the other party.

22           **SECTION 150.** 767.087 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

23           767.087 (2) The prohibitions under sub. (1) shall apply until the action is  
24 dismissed, until a final judgment in the action is entered or until the court or family  
25 a circuit court commissioner orders otherwise.

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 151**

1           **SECTION 151.** 767.11 (1) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           767.11 (1) (c) A county or counties may designate ~~a~~ the supervisor of the office  
3 of family court commissioner as the director under par. (a) or (b).

4           **SECTION 152.** 767.11 (5) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

5           767.11 (5) (a) In any action affecting the family, including a revision of  
6 judgment or order under s. 767.32 or 767.325, in which it appears that legal custody  
7 or physical placement is contested, the court or ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner  
8 shall refer the parties to the director of family court counseling services for possible  
9 mediation of those contested issues. The court or ~~the family~~ circuit court  
10 commissioner shall inform the parties that the confidentiality of communications in  
11 mediation is waived if the parties stipulate under sub. (14) (c) that the person who  
12 provided mediation to the parties may also conduct the legal custody or physical  
13 placement study under sub. (14).

14           **SECTION 153.** 767.11 (5) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

15           767.11 (5) (b) If both parties to any action affecting the family wish to have joint  
16 legal custody of a child, either party may request that the court or ~~family~~ circuit court  
17 commissioner ~~to~~ refer the parties to the director of family court counseling services  
18 for assistance in resolving any problem relating to joint legal custody and physical  
19 placement of the child. Upon request, the court shall so refer the parties.

20           **SECTION 154.** 767.11 (5) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

21           767.11 (5) (c) A person who is awarded periods of physical placement, a child  
22 of such a person, a person with visitation rights or a person with physical custody of  
23 a child may notify ~~the family~~ a circuit court commissioner of any problem he or she  
24 has relating to any of these matters. Upon notification, the ~~family~~ circuit court



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1 commissioner may refer any person involved in the matter to the director of family  
2 court counseling services for assistance in resolving the problem.

3 **SECTION 155.** 767.11 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 767.11 (6) ACTION UPON REFERRAL. Whenever a court or family circuit court  
5 commissioner refers a party to the director of family court counseling services for  
6 possible mediation, the director shall assign a mediator to the case. The mediator  
7 shall provide mediation if he or she determines it is appropriate. If the mediator  
8 determines mediation is not appropriate, he or she shall so notify the court.  
9 Whenever a court or family circuit court commissioner refers a party to the director  
10 of family court counseling services for any other family court counseling service, the  
11 director shall take appropriate action to provide the service.

12 **SECTION 156.** 767.11 (7) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 767.11 (7) PRIVATE MEDIATOR. The parties to any action affecting the family may,  
14 at their own expense, receive mediation services from a mediator other than one who  
15 provides services under sub. (3). Parties who receive services from such a mediator  
16 shall sign and file with the director of family court counseling services and with the  
17 court or family circuit court commissioner a written notice stating the mediator's  
18 name and the date of the first meeting with the mediator.

19 **SECTION 157.** 767.11 (13) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 767.11 (13) POWERS OF COURT OR ~~FAMILY~~ CIRCUIT COURT COMMISSIONER. Except as  
21 provided in sub. (8), referring parties to mediation under this section does not affect  
22 the power of the court or ~~family a~~ circuit court commissioner to make any necessary  
23 order relating to the parties during the course of the mediation.

24 **SECTION 158.** 767.115 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 158**

1           767.115 (1) (a) At any time during the pendency of an action affecting the  
2 family in which a minor child is involved and in which the court or family circuit court  
3 commissioner determines that it is appropriate and in the best interest of the child,  
4 the court or family circuit court commissioner, on its own motion, may order the  
5 parties to attend a program specified by the court or family circuit court  
6 commissioner concerning the effects on a child of a dissolution of the marriage.

7           **SECTION 159.** 767.115 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

8           767.115 (1) (b) At any time during the pendency of an action to determine the  
9 paternity of a child, or an action affecting the family for which the underlying action  
10 was an action to determine the paternity of a child, if the court or family circuit court  
11 commissioner determines that it is appropriate and in the best interest of the child,  
12 the court or family circuit court commissioner, on its own motion, may order either  
13 or both of the parties to attend a program specified by the court or family circuit court  
14 commissioner providing training in parenting or coparenting skills, or both.

15           **SECTION 160.** 767.115 (1m) of the statutes is amended to read:

16           767.115 (1m) A program under sub. (1) shall be educational rather than  
17 therapeutic in nature and may not exceed a total of 4 hours in length. The parties  
18 shall be responsible for the cost, if any, of attendance at the program. The court or  
19 family circuit court commissioner may specifically assign responsibility for payment  
20 of any cost. No facts or information obtained in the course of the program, and no  
21 report resulting from the program, is admissible in any action or proceeding.

22           **SECTION 161.** 767.115 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

23           767.115 (2) Notwithstanding s. 767.07, the court or family circuit court  
24 commissioner may require the parties to attend a program under sub. (1) as a

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1 condition to the granting of a final judgment or order in the action affecting the  
2 family that is pending before the court or family circuit court commissioner.

3 **SECTION 162.** 767.115 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 767.115 (4) (a) At any time during the pendency of a divorce or paternity action,  
5 the court or family circuit court commissioner may order the parties to attend a class  
6 that is approved by the court or family circuit court commissioner and that addresses  
7 such issues as child development, family dynamics, how parental separation affects  
8 a child's development and what parents can do to make raising a child in a separated  
9 situation less stressful for the child.

10 **SECTION 163.** 767.115 (4) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

11 767.115 (4) (b) The court or family circuit court commissioner may not require  
12 the parties to attend a class under this subsection as a condition to the granting of  
13 the final judgment or order in the divorce or paternity action, however, the court or  
14 family circuit court commissioner may refuse to hear a custody or physical placement  
15 motion of a party who refuses to attend a class ordered under this subsection.

16 **SECTION 164.** 767.115 (4) (c) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

17 767.115 (4) (c) 2. If the court or family circuit court commissioner finds that a  
18 party is indigent, any costs that would be the responsibility of that party shall be paid  
19 by the county.

20 **SECTION 165.** 767.12 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

21 767.12 (1) PROCEEDINGS. In actions affecting the family, all hearings and trials  
22 to determine whether judgment shall be granted, except hearings under s. ~~767.13 (5)~~  
23 757.69 (1) (p) 3., shall be before the court. The testimony shall be taken by the  
24 reporter and shall be written out and filed with the record if so ordered by the court.  
25 Custody proceedings shall receive priority in being set for hearing.

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 166**

1           **SECTION 166.** 767.125 of the statutes is amended to read:

2           **767.125 Order for appearance of litigants.** Unless nonresidence in the  
3 state is shown by competent evidence, service is by publication, or the court shall for  
4 other good cause otherwise order, both parties in actions affecting the family shall  
5 be required to appear upon the trial. An order of the court or ~~family~~ a circuit court  
6 commissioner to that effect shall accordingly be procured by the moving party, and  
7 shall be served upon the nonmoving party before the trial. In the case of a joint  
8 petition the order is not required.

9           **SECTION 167.** 767.13 (title) of the statutes is repealed.

10          **SECTION 168.** 767.13 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 757.68 (2m) (a) and  
11 amended to read:

12           757.68 (2m) (a) *Counties other than Milwaukee.* 1. 'Appointment.' In each  
13 county, except in a county having a population of 500,000 or more, ~~the circuit judges~~  
14 ~~for the county, subject to the approval of the chief judge of the judicial administrative~~  
15 ~~district, shall, by order filed in the office of the clerk of the circuit court on or before~~  
16 ~~the first Monday of July of each year, appoint some reputable attorney of recognized~~  
17 ~~ability and standing at the bar as the~~ a circuit court commissioner to supervise the  
18 office of family court commissioner for the county.

19           2. 'Powers; civil service; oath; temporary appointment; assistants.' ~~The family~~  
20 ~~court commissioner, by virtue of the office and to the extent required for the~~  
21 ~~performance of the duties, has the powers of a court commissioner. The~~ circuit court  
22 commissioner appointed to supervise the office of family court commissioner is in  
23 addition to the maximum number of circuit court commissioners permitted by  
24 s.757.68 sub. (1). The circuit court commissioner supervising the office of the family  
25 court commissioner, or any assistant circuit court commissioner assisting in family

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 168**

1  ~~matters, may be placed under a county civil service system by resolution of the county~~  
2  ~~board. Before entering upon the discharge of the duties the family court~~  
3  ~~commissioner shall take and file the official oath. The person appointed shall~~  
4  ~~continue to act until a successor is appointed and qualified, except that in the event~~  
5  ~~of disability or extended absence the judges may appoint another reputable attorney~~  
6  ~~to act as temporary family court commissioner. The county board may provide that~~  
7  ~~one or more assistant family court commissioners shall be appointed by the circuit~~  
8  ~~judges for the county, subject to the approval of the chief judge of the judicial~~  
9  ~~administrative district. An assistant family court commissioner shall have the same~~  
10  ~~qualifications as the commissioner and shall take and file the official oath.~~

11 **SECTION 169.** 767.13 (2) (title) of the statutes is repealed.

12 **SECTION 170.** 767.13 (2) (a) of the statutes is renumbered 757.68 (2m) (b) and  
13 amended to read:

14 757.68 (2m) (b) *Appointment; assistants; civil service Milwaukee County.* In  
15 counties having a population of 500,000 or more, there is created in the classified civil  
16 service a circuit court commissioner position to supervise the office of family court  
17 commissioner and such additional assistant family circuit court commissioners  
18 commissioner positions as the county board shall determine and authorize, who  
19 Circuit court commissioners shall be appointed from the membership of the bar  
20 residing in the county to these positions by the chief judge of the judicial  
21 administrative district under ss. 63.01 to 63.17 SCR 75.02 (1).

22 **SECTION 171.** 767.13 (2) (b), (3) and (4) of the statutes are repealed.

23 **SECTION 172.** 767.13 (5) (title) and (a) (title) of the statutes are repealed.

24 **SECTION 173.** 767.13 (5) (a) of the statutes is renumbered 757.69 (1) (p) (intro.)  
25 and amended to read:

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1           757.69 (1) (p) (intro.) ~~On authority delegated by a judge, which may be by a~~  
2           ~~standard order, and with the approval of the chief judge of the judicial administrative~~  
3           ~~district, a family court commissioner may preside~~ When assigned to assist in matters  
4           affecting the family:

5           1. Preside at any hearing held to determine whether a judgment of divorce shall  
6           be granted, if both parties state that the marriage is irretrievably broken and that  
7           all material issues, including but not limited to division of property or estate, legal  
8           custody, physical placement, child support, spousal maintenance and family  
9           support, are resolved or if one party does not participate in the action for divorce. The  
10          ~~family~~ A circuit court commissioner may grant and enter judgment in any action over  
11          which he or she presides under this ~~paragraph~~ subdivision unless the judgment  
12          modifies an agreement between the parties on material issues. If the ~~family~~ circuit  
13          court commissioner does not approve an agreement between the parties on material  
14          issues, the action shall be certified to the court for trial.

15          **SECTION 174.** 767.13 (5) (b) (title) of the statutes is repealed.

16          **SECTION 175.** 767.13 (5) (b) of the statutes is renumbered 757.69 (1) (p) 2. and  
17          amended to read:

18          757.69 (1) (p) 2. ~~On authority delegated by a judge, which may be by a standard~~  
19          ~~order, a family court commissioner may conduct~~ Conduct hearings and enter  
20          judgments in actions for enforcement of, or revision of judgment for, maintenance,  
21          custody, physical placement or visitation.

22          **SECTION 176.** 767.13 (5) (c) (title) of the statutes is repealed.

23          **SECTION 177.** 767.13 (5) (c) of the statutes is renumbered 757.69 (1) (p) 3. and  
24          amended to read:

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 177**

1           757.69 (1) (p) 3. Except when ~~otherwise ordered by a judge, a family court~~  
2           commissioner ~~may~~ prohibited by the chief judge of the judicial administrative  
3           district, conduct hearings and enter orders and judgments in actions to establish  
4           paternity, in actions to establish or enforce a child support or a family support  
5           obligation and in actions to revise orders or judgments for child support or family  
6           support.

7           **SECTION 178.** 767.13 (6) of the statutes is repealed.

8           **SECTION 179.** 767.13 (7) (title) of the statutes is repealed.

9           **SECTION 180.** 767.13 (7) of the statutes is renumbered 757.69 (2t) and amended  
10          to read:

11           757.69 (2t) ~~Each family~~ A circuit court commissioner shall cooperate with the  
12          county and the department to ensure that all dependent children receive reasonable  
13          and necessary child support.

14           **SECTION 181.** 767.14 of the statutes is amended to read:

15           **767.14 Service on office of family court commissioner and appearance**  
16          **by family circuit court commissioner.** In any action affecting the family, each  
17          party shall, either within 20 days after making service on the opposite party of any  
18          petition or pleading or before filing such petition or pleading in court, serve a copy  
19          of the same upon the circuit court commissioner supervising the office of family court  
20          commissioner of the county in which the action is begun, whether such action is  
21          contested or not. No judgment in any such action shall be granted unless this section  
22          is complied with except when otherwise ordered by the court. ~~Such~~ A circuit court  
23          commissioner assisting in matters affecting the family may appear in an action  
24          under this chapter when appropriate; and shall appear when requested by the court.

25           **SECTION 182.** 767.145 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           767.145 (1) After the expiration of the period specified by the statute, the court  
2 may in its discretion, upon petition and without notice, extend the time within which  
3 service shall be made upon the circuit court commissioner supervising the office of  
4 family court commissioner.

5           **SECTION 183.** 767.15 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

6           767.15 (1) In any action affecting the family in which either party is a recipient  
7 of benefits under ss. 49.141 to 49.161 or aid under s. 46.261, 49.19 or 49.45, each party  
8 shall, either within 20 days after making service on the opposite party of any motion  
9 or pleading requesting the court or ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner to order, or to  
10 modify a previous order, relating to child support, maintenance or family support, or  
11 before filing the motion or pleading in court, serve a copy of the motion or pleading  
12 upon the county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) of the county in which the  
13 action is begun.

14           **SECTION 184.** 767.16 of the statutes is amended to read:

15           **767.16 Family Circuit court commissioner or law partner; when**  
16 **interested; procedure.** Neither a ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner assisting in  
17 matters affecting the family nor a partner may appear in any action affecting the  
18 family in any court held in the county in which the ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner  
19 is acting, except when authorized to appear by s. 767.14. In case the circuit court  
20 commissioner or a partner shall be in any way interested in such action, the  
21 presiding judge shall appoint some reputable attorney to perform the services  
22 enjoined upon ~~such family~~ the circuit court commissioner ~~and such.~~ The appointed  
23 ~~attorney, so appointed,~~ shall take and file the oath and receive the compensation  
24 provided by law.

25           **SECTION 185.** 767.17 of the statutes is repealed.



**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 186**

1           **SECTION 186.** 767.23 (1) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           767.23 (1) (intro.) Except as provided in ch. 822, in every action affecting the  
3 family, the court or ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner may, during the pendency  
4 thereof, make just and reasonable temporary orders concerning the following  
5 matters:

6           **SECTION 187.** 767.23 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

7           767.23 (1) (a) Upon request of one party, granting legal custody of the minor  
8 children to the parties jointly, to one party solely or to a relative or agency specified  
9 under s. 767.24 (3), in a manner consistent with s. 767.24, except that the court or  
10 ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner may order sole legal custody without the  
11 agreement of the other party and without the findings required under s. 767.24 (2)  
12 (b) 2. This order may not have a binding effect on a final custody determination.

13           **SECTION 188.** 767.23 (1) (am) of the statutes is amended to read:

14           767.23 (1) (am) Upon the request of a party, granting periods of physical  
15 placement to a party in a manner consistent with s. 767.24. The court or ~~family~~  
16 circuit court commissioner shall make a determination under this paragraph within  
17 30 days after the request for a temporary order regarding periods of physical  
18 placement is filed.

19           **SECTION 189.** 767.23 (1m) of the statutes is amended to read:

20           767.23 (1m) If a ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner believes that a temporary  
21 restraining order or injunction under s. 813.12 is appropriate in an action, the circuit  
22 court commissioner shall inform the parties of their right to seek the order or  
23 injunction and the procedure to follow. On a motion for such a restraining order or  
24 injunction, the ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner shall submit the motion to the court  
25 within 5 working days.

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 190**

1           **SECTION 190.** 767.23 (1n) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           767.23 **(1n)** Before making any temporary order under sub. (1), the court or  
3 ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner shall consider those factors that the court is  
4 required by this chapter to consider before entering a final judgment on the same  
5 subject matter. In making a determination under sub. (1) (a) or (am), the court or  
6 ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner shall consider the factors under s. 767.24 (5). If  
7 the court or ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner makes a temporary child support order  
8 that deviates from the amount of support that would be required by using the  
9 percentage standard established by the department under s. 49.22 (9), the court or  
10 ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner shall comply with the requirements of s. 767.25  
11 (1n). A temporary order under sub. (1) may be based upon the written stipulation  
12 of the parties, subject to the approval of the court or ~~the~~ ~~family~~ circuit court  
13 commissioner. Temporary orders made by ~~the~~ ~~family~~ a circuit court commissioner  
14 may be reviewed by the court ~~as provided in s. 767.13 (6)~~.

15           **SECTION 191.** 767.242 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

16           767.242 **(3)** (b) The petition shall request the imposition of a remedy or any  
17 combination of remedies under sub. (5) (b) and (c). This paragraph does not prohibit  
18 a judge or ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner from imposing a remedy under sub. (5)  
19 (b) or (c) if the remedy was not requested in the petition.

20           **SECTION 192.** 767.242 (3) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

21           767.242 **(3)** (c) A judge or ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner shall accept any  
22 legible petition for an order under this section.

23           **SECTION 193.** 767.242 (5) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

24           767.242 **(5)** (a) A judge or ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner shall hold a hearing  
25 on the petition no later than 30 days after the petition has been served, unless the

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1 time is extended by mutual agreement of the parties or upon the motion of a guardian  
2 ad litem and the approval of the judge or family circuit court commissioner. The  
3 judge or family circuit court commissioner may, on his or her own motion or the  
4 motion of any party, order that a guardian ad litem be appointed for the child prior  
5 to the hearing.

6 **SECTION 194.** 767.242 (5) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 767.242 (5) (b) (intro.) If, at the conclusion of the hearing, the judge or family  
8 circuit court commissioner finds that the respondent has intentionally and  
9 unreasonably denied the petitioner one or more periods of physical placement or that  
10 the respondent has intentionally and unreasonably interfered with one or more of  
11 the petitioner's periods of physical placement, the court or family circuit court  
12 commissioner:

13 **SECTION 195.** 767.242 (5) (b) 2. c. of the statutes is amended to read:

14 767.242 (5) (b) 2. c. Grant an injunction ordering the respondent to strictly  
15 comply with the judgment or order relating to the award of physical placement. In  
16 determining whether to issue an injunction, the judge or family circuit court  
17 commissioner shall consider whether alternative remedies requested by the  
18 petitioner would be as effective in obtaining compliance with the order or judgment  
19 relating to physical placement.

20 **SECTION 196.** 767.242 (5) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

21 767.242 (5) (c) If, at the conclusion of the hearing, the judge or family circuit  
22 court commissioner finds that the petitioner has incurred a financial loss or expenses  
23 as a result of the respondent's failure, intentionally and unreasonably and without  
24 adequate notice to the petitioner, to exercise one or more periods of physical  
25 placement under an order allocating specific times for the exercise of periods of

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 196**

1 physical placement, the judge or family circuit court commissioner may issue an  
2 order requiring the respondent to pay to the petitioner a sum of money sufficient to  
3 compensate the petitioner for the financial loss or expenses.

4 **SECTION 197.** 767.242 (5) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 767.242 (5) (d) Except as provided in par. (b) 1. a. and 2. a., the judge or family  
6 circuit court commissioner may not modify an order of legal custody or physical  
7 placement in an action under this section.

8 **SECTION 198.** 767.242 (6) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 767.242 (6) (a) If an injunction is issued under sub. (5) (b) 2. c., upon request  
10 by the petitioner the judge or family circuit court commissioner shall order the sheriff  
11 to assist the petitioner in executing or serving the injunction.

12 **SECTION 199.** 767.247 of the statutes is amended to read:

13 **767.247 Prohibiting visitation or physical placement if a parent kills**  
14 **other parent. (1)** Notwithstanding ss. 767.23 (1) (am), 767.24 (1), (4) and (5),  
15 767.51 (3) and 767.62 (4) (a) and except as provided in sub. (2), in an action under this  
16 chapter that affects a minor child, a court or family circuit court commissioner may  
17 not grant to the child's parent visitation or physical placement rights with the child  
18 if the parent has been convicted under s. 940.01 of the first-degree intentional  
19 homicide, or under s. 940.05 of the 2nd-degree intentional homicide, of the child's  
20 other parent, and the conviction has not been reversed, set aside or vacated.

21 **(2)** Subsection (1) does not apply if the court or family circuit court  
22 commissioner determines by clear and convincing evidence that the visitation or  
23 periods of physical placement would be in the best interests of the child. The court  
24 or family circuit court commissioner shall consider the wishes of the child in making  
25 the determination.

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 200**

1           **SECTION 200.** 767.25 (4m) (f) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

2           767.25 (4m) (f) 2. The notice provided to the parent shall inform the parent that  
3 coverage for the child under the new employer's health benefit plan will be in effect  
4 upon the employer's receipt of the notice. The notice shall inform the parent that he  
5 or she may, within 10 business days after receiving the notice, by motion request a  
6 hearing before the court on the issue of whether the order to provide coverage of the  
7 child's health care expenses should remain in effect. A motion under this subdivision  
8 may be heard by a family circuit court commissioner. If the parent requests a hearing  
9 and the court or family circuit court commissioner determines that the order to  
10 provide coverage of the child's health care expenses should not remain in effect, the  
11 court shall provide notice to the employer that the order is no longer in effect.

12           **SECTION 201.** 767.265 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

13           767.265 (1) Each order for child support under this chapter, for maintenance  
14 payments under s. 767.23 or 767.26, for family support under this chapter, for costs  
15 ordered under s. 767.51 (3) or 767.62 (4), for support by a spouse under s. 767.02 (1)  
16 (f), for maintenance payments under s. 767.02 (1) (g) or for the annual receiving and  
17 disbursing fee under s. 767.29 (1) (d), each order for a revision in a judgment or order  
18 with respect to child support, maintenance or family support payments under s.  
19 767.32, each stipulation approved by the court or ~~the family~~ a circuit court  
20 commissioner for child support under this chapter and each order for child or spousal  
21 support entered under s. 948.22 (7) constitutes an assignment of all commissions,  
22 earnings, salaries, wages, pension benefits, benefits under ch. 102 or 108, lottery  
23 prizes that are payable in ~~instalments~~ installments and other money due or to be due  
24 in the future to the department or its designee. The assignment shall be for an  
25 amount sufficient to ensure payment under the order or stipulation and to pay any

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 201**

1 arrearages due at a periodic rate not to exceed 50% of the amount of support due  
2 under the order or stipulation so long as the addition of the amount toward  
3 arrearages does not leave the party at an income below the poverty line established  
4 under 42 USC 9902 (2).

5 **SECTION 202.** 767.265 (2h) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 767.265 (2h) If a court-ordered assignment, including the assignment  
7 specified under sub. (1) for the payment of any arrearages due, does not require  
8 immediately effective withholding and a payer fails to make a required maintenance,  
9 child support, spousal support, family support or annual receiving and disbursing  
10 fee payment within 10 days after its due date, within 20 days after the payment's due  
11 date the court, family circuit court commissioner or county child support agency  
12 under s. 59.53 (5) shall cause the assignment to go into effect by providing notice of  
13 the assignment in the manner provided under sub. (2r) and shall send a notice by  
14 regular mail to the last-known address of the payer. The notice sent to the payer  
15 shall inform the payer that an assignment is in effect and that the payer may, within  
16 a 10-day period, by motion request a hearing on the issue of whether the assignment  
17 should remain in effect. The court or family circuit court commissioner shall hold a  
18 hearing requested under this subsection within 10 working days after the date of the  
19 request. If at the hearing the payer establishes that the assignment is not proper  
20 because of a mistake of fact, the court or family circuit court commissioner may direct  
21 that the assignment be withdrawn. Either party may, within 15 working days after  
22 the date of a decision by a family circuit court commissioner under this subsection,  
23 seek review of the decision by the court with jurisdiction over the action.

24 **SECTION 203.** 767.265 (2m) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           767.265 (2m) (b) The county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) may cause  
2 an assignment under par. (a) to go into effect by providing notice of the assignment  
3 in the manner provided under sub. (2r) and sending a notice by regular mail to the  
4 last-known address of the payer. The notice sent to the payer shall inform the payer  
5 that an assignment is in effect and that the payer may, within a 10-day period, by  
6 motion request a hearing on the issue of whether the assignment should remain in  
7 effect. The court or family circuit court commissioner shall hold a hearing requested  
8 under this paragraph within 10 working days after the date of the request. If at the  
9 hearing the payer establishes that the assignment is not proper because of a mistake  
10 of fact, the court or family circuit court commissioner may direct that the assignment  
11 be withdrawn. The payer or the county child support agency may, within 15 working  
12 days after the date of a decision by a family circuit court commissioner under this  
13 paragraph, seek review of the decision by the court with jurisdiction over the action.

14           **SECTION 204.** 767.265 (2r) of the statutes is amended to read:

15           767.265 (2r) Upon entry of each order for child support, maintenance, family  
16 support, support by a spouse or the annual receiving and disbursing fee, and upon  
17 approval of each stipulation for child support, unless the court finds that income  
18 withholding is likely to cause the payer irreparable harm or unless s. 767.267  
19 applies, the court, family circuit court commissioner or county child support agency  
20 under s. 59.53 (5) shall provide notice of the assignment by regular mail or by  
21 facsimile machine, as defined in s. 134.72 (1) (a), or other electronic means to the  
22 last-known address of the person from whom the payer receives or will receive  
23 money. The notice shall provide that the amount withheld may not exceed the  
24 maximum amount that is subject to garnishment under 15 USC 1673 (b) (2). If the  
25 department or its designee, whichever is appropriate, does not receive the money

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1 from the person notified, the court, ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner or county child  
2 support agency under s. 59.53 (5) shall provide notice of the assignment to any other  
3 person from whom the payer receives or will receive money. Notice under this  
4 subsection may be a notice of the court, a copy of the executed assignment or a copy  
5 of that part of the court order directing payment.

6 **SECTION 205.** 767.267 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 767.267 (1) If the court or ~~the family~~ circuit court commissioner determines  
8 that income withholding under s. 767.265 is inapplicable, ineffective or insufficient  
9 to ensure payment under an order or stipulation specified in s. 767.265 (1), or that  
10 income withholding under s. 767.25 (4m) (c) is inapplicable, ineffective or insufficient  
11 to ensure payment of a child's health care expenses, including payment of health  
12 insurance premiums, ordered under s. 767.25 (4m) ~~or 767.51 (3m)~~, the court or ~~family~~  
13 circuit court commissioner may require the payer to identify or establish a deposit  
14 account, owned in whole or in part by the payer, that allows for periodic transfers of  
15 funds and to file with the financial institution at which the account is located an  
16 authorization for transfer from the account to the department or its designee,  
17 whichever is appropriate. The authorization shall be provided on a standard form  
18 approved by the court and shall specify the frequency and the amount of transfer,  
19 sufficient to meet the payer's obligation under the order or stipulation, as required  
20 by the court or ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner. The authorization shall include  
21 the payer's consent for the financial institution or an officer, employee or agent of the  
22 financial institution to disclose information to the court, ~~family~~ circuit court  
23 commissioner, county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5), department or  
24 department's designee regarding the account for which the payer has executed the  
25 authorization for transfer.



**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 206**

1           **SECTION 206.** 767.267 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           767.267 (5) A financial institution or an officer, employee or agent of a financial  
3 institution may disclose information to the court, ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner,  
4 county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5), department or department's designee  
5 concerning an account for which a payer has executed an authorization for transfer  
6 under sub. (1).

7           **SECTION 207.** 767.27 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

8           767.27 (2) Except as provided in sub. (2m), disclosure forms required under this  
9 section shall be filed within 90 days after the service of summons or the filing of a  
10 joint petition or at such other time as ordered by the court or ~~family~~ circuit court  
11 commissioner. Information contained on such forms shall be updated on the record  
12 to the date of hearing.

13           **SECTION 208.** 767.29 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

14           **767.29 (title) Maintenance, child support and family support**  
15 **payments, receipt and disbursement; ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner,**  
16 **fees and compensation.**

17           **SECTION 209.** 767.29 (1) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

18           767.29 (1) (c) Except as provided in sub. (1m), the department or its designee  
19 shall disburse the money received under the judgment or order in the manner  
20 required by federal regulations and take receipts therefor, unless the department or  
21 its designee is unable to disburse the moneys because they were paid by check or  
22 other draft drawn upon an account containing insufficient funds. All moneys  
23 received or disbursed under this section shall be entered in a record kept by the  
24 department or its designee, whichever is appropriate, which shall be open to

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 209**

1 inspection by the parties to the action, their attorneys and the family circuit court  
2 commissioner.

3 **SECTION 210.** 767.29 (1) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 767.29 (1) (d) For receiving and disbursing maintenance, child support or  
5 family support payments, and for maintaining the records required under par. (c),  
6 the department or its designee shall collect an annual fee of \$25. The court or family  
7 circuit court commissioner shall order each party ordered to make payments to pay  
8 the annual fee under this paragraph in each year for which payments are ordered.  
9 In directing the manner of payment of the annual fee, the court or family circuit court  
10 commissioner shall order that the annual fee be withheld from income and sent to  
11 the department or its designee, as provided under s. 767.265. All fees collected under  
12 this paragraph shall be deposited in the appropriation account under s. 20.445 (3)  
13 (ja). At the time of ordering the payment of an annual fee under this paragraph, the  
14 court or family circuit court commissioner shall notify each party ordered to make  
15 payments of the requirement to pay the annual fee and of the amount of the annual  
16 fee. If the annual fee under this paragraph is not paid when due, the department or  
17 its designee may not deduct the annual fee from the maintenance or child or family  
18 support payment, but may move the court for a remedial sanction under ch. 785.

19 **SECTION 211.** 767.29 (1) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 767.29 (1) (e) If the maintenance, child support or family support payments  
21 adjudged or ordered to be paid are not paid to the department or its designee at the  
22 time provided in the judgment or order, the county child support agency under s.  
23 59.53 (5) or ~~the family~~ a circuit court commissioner of the county shall take such  
24 proceedings as he or she considers advisable to secure the payment of the sum  
25 including enforcement by contempt proceedings under ch. 785 or by other means.

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 211**

1 Copies of any order issued to compel the payment shall be mailed to counsel who  
2 represented each party when the maintenance, child support or family support  
3 payments were awarded. In case any fees of officers in any of the proceedings,  
4 including the compensation of the ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner at the rate of \$50  
5 per day unless the commissioner is on a salaried basis, is not collected from the  
6 person proceeded against, the fees shall be paid out of the county treasury upon the  
7 order of the presiding judge and the certificate of the department.

8 **SECTION 212.** 767.29 (1m) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 767.29 (1m) (b) The court or ~~the family~~ circuit court commissioner has ordered  
10 that overpayments of child support, family support or maintenance that do not  
11 exceed the amount of support or maintenance due in the next month may be held for  
12 disbursement in the next month.

13 **SECTION 213.** 767.29 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 767.29 (3) (a) If maintenance payments or support money, or both, is ordered  
15 to be paid for the benefit of any person, who is committed by court order to an  
16 institution or is in confinement, or whose legal custody is vested by court order under  
17 ch. 48 or 938 in an agency, department or relative, the court or ~~family~~ a circuit court  
18 commissioner may order such maintenance payments or support money to be paid  
19 to the relative or agency, institution, welfare department or other entity having the  
20 legal or actual custody of said person, and to be used for the latter's care and  
21 maintenance, without the appointment of a guardian under ch. 880.

22 **SECTION 214.** 767.29 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 767.29 (3) (b) If a child who is the beneficiary of support under a judgment or  
24 order is placed by court order in a child caring institution, juvenile correctional  
25 institution or state mental institution, the right of the child to support during the

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 214**

1 period of the child's confinement, including any right to unpaid support accruing  
2 during that period, is assigned to the state. If the judgment or order providing for  
3 the support of a child who is placed in a child caring institution, juvenile correctional  
4 institution or state mental institution includes support for one or more other  
5 children, the support that is assigned to the state shall be the proportionate share  
6 of the child placed in the institution, except as otherwise ordered by the court or  
7 ~~family circuit~~ court commissioner on the motion of a party.

8 **SECTION 215.** 767.293 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 767.293 (1) If an order for child support under this chapter or s. 948.22 (7), an  
10 order for family support under this chapter or a stipulation approved by the court or  
11 ~~the family circuit~~ court commissioner for child support under this chapter requires  
12 a payer to pay child or family support in an amount that is expressed as a percentage  
13 of parental income, the payee, including the state or a county child support agency  
14 under s. 59.53 (5) if the state is a real party in interest under s. 767.075 (1), may  
15 establish an arrearage by filing an affidavit in the action in which the order for the  
16 payment of support was entered or the stipulation for support was approved. The  
17 affidavit shall state the amount of the arrearage and the facts supporting a  
18 reasonable basis on which the arrearage was determined and may state the payer's  
19 current income and the facts supporting a reasonable basis on which the payer's  
20 current income was determined. Not later than 60 days after filing the affidavit, the  
21 payee shall serve the affidavit on the payer in the manner provided in s. 801.11 (1)  
22 (a) or (b) or by sending the affidavit by registered or certified mail to the last-known  
23 address of the payer. After the payee files a proof of service on the payer, the court  
24 shall send a notice to the payer by regular, registered or certified mail to the payer's  
25 last-known address. The notice shall provide that, unless the payer requests a

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354**

1 hearing to dispute the arrearage or the amount of the arrearage not later than 20  
2 days after the date of the notice, the court or family circuit court commissioner may  
3 enter an order against the payer in the amount stated in the affidavit and may  
4 provide notice of assignment under s. 767.265. The notice shall include the mailing  
5 address to which the request for hearing must be mailed or delivered in order to  
6 schedule a hearing under sub. (2).

7 **SECTION 216.** 767.293 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

8 767.293 (2) If the payer makes a timely request for a hearing, the court or  
9 family circuit court commissioner shall hold a hearing on the issue of the amount of  
10 the arrearage, if any. If the court or family circuit court commissioner determines  
11 after hearing that an arrearage exists, the court or family circuit court commissioner  
12 shall enter an order establishing an arrearage in the amount determined by the court  
13 or family circuit court commissioner and may send notice of assignment under s.  
14 767.265.

15 **SECTION 217.** 767.293 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 767.293 (3) If the court or family circuit court commissioner sends the notice  
17 under sub. (1) and the payer fails to make a timely request for a hearing, the court  
18 or family circuit court commissioner, if the affidavit demonstrates to the satisfaction  
19 of the court or family circuit court commissioner that an arrearage exists, shall enter  
20 an order establishing an arrearage in the amount determined by the court or family  
21 circuit court commissioner and may send notice of assignment under s. 767.265. The  
22 court or family circuit court commissioner shall send the order to the payer's  
23 last-known address and shall inform the payer whether an assignment is in effect  
24 and that the payer may, within a 10-day period, by motion request a hearing on the  
25 issue of whether the order should be vacated or the assignment should be withdrawn.

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 218**

1           **SECTION 218.** 767.32 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           767.32 (1) (a) After a judgment or order providing for child support under this  
3 chapter or s. 48.355 (2) (b) 4., 48.357 (5m) (a), 48.363 (2), 938.183 (4), 938.355 (2) (b)  
4 4., 938.357 (5m) (a), 938.363 (2) or 948.22 (7), maintenance payments under s. 767.26  
5 or family support payments under this chapter, or for the appointment of trustees  
6 under s. 767.31, the court may, from time to time, on the petition, motion or order to  
7 show cause of either of the parties, or upon the petition, motion or order to show cause  
8 of the department, a county department under s. 46.215, 46.22 or 46.23 or a county  
9 child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) if an assignment has been made under s.  
10 46.261, 48.57 (3m) (b) 2. or (3n) (b) 2., 49.19 (4) (h) or 49.45 (19) or if either party or  
11 their minor children receive aid under s. 48.57 (3m) or (3n) or ch. 49, and upon notice  
12 to the office of family court commissioner, revise and alter such judgment or order  
13 respecting the amount of such maintenance or child support and the payment  
14 thereof, and also respecting the appropriation and payment of the principal and  
15 income of the property so held in trust, and may make any judgment or order  
16 respecting any of the matters that such court might have made in the original action,  
17 except that a judgment or order that waives maintenance payments for either party  
18 shall not thereafter be revised or altered in that respect nor shall the provisions of  
19 a judgment or order with respect to final division of property be subject to revision  
20 or modification. A revision, under this section, of a judgment or order with respect  
21 to an amount of child or family support may be made only upon a finding of a  
22 substantial change in circumstances. In any action under this section to revise a  
23 judgment or order with respect to maintenance payments, a substantial change in  
24 the cost of living by either party or as measured by the federal bureau of labor  
25 statistics may be sufficient to justify a revision of judgment or order with respect to

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354**

1 the amount of maintenance, except that a change in an obligor's cost of living is not  
2 in itself sufficient if payments are expressed as a percentage of income.

3 **SECTION 219.** 767.327 (2) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 767.327 (2) (c) Upon receipt of a copy of a notice of objection under par. (a), the  
5 court or family circuit court commissioner shall promptly refer the parents for  
6 mediation or other family court counseling services under s. 767.11 and may appoint  
7 a guardian ad litem. Unless the parents agree to extend the time period, if mediation  
8 or counseling services do not resolve the dispute within 30 days after referral, the  
9 matter shall proceed under subs. (3) to (5).

10 **SECTION 220.** 767.33 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

11 767.33 (2) An adjustment under sub. (1) may be made only if the party receiving  
12 payments applies to the family a circuit court commissioner for the adjustment. If  
13 the order specifies the date on which the annual adjustment becomes effective, the  
14 application to the family circuit court commissioner must be made at least 20 days  
15 before the effective date of the adjustment. The family circuit court commissioner,  
16 upon application by the party receiving payments, shall send a notice by certified  
17 mail to the last-known address of the obligor. The notice shall be postmarked no  
18 later than 10 days after the date on which the application was filed and shall inform  
19 the obligor that an adjustment in payments will become effective on the date  
20 specified in the order or, if no date is specified in the order, 10 days after the date on  
21 which the notice is sent. The obligor may, after receipt of notice and before the  
22 effective date of the adjustment, request a hearing on the issue of whether the  
23 adjustment should take effect, in which case the adjustment shall be held in  
24 abeyance pending the outcome of the hearing. The family circuit court commissioner  
25 shall hold a hearing requested under this subsection within 10 working days after

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 220**

1 the request. If at the hearing the obligor establishes that extraordinary  
2 circumstances beyond his or her control prevent fulfillment of the adjusted child  
3 support obligation, the ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner may direct that all or part  
4 of the adjustment not take effect until the obligor is able to fulfill the adjusted  
5 obligation. If at the hearing the obligor does not establish that extraordinary  
6 circumstances beyond his or her control prevent fulfillment of the adjusted  
7 obligation, the adjustment shall take effect as of the date it would have become  
8 effective had no hearing been requested. Either party may, within 15 working days  
9 of the date of the decision by the ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner under this  
10 subsection, seek review of the decision by the court with jurisdiction over the action.

11 **SECTION 221.** 767.37 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

12 767.37 (1) (a) In any action affecting the family, if the court orders maintenance  
13 payments or other allowances for a party or children or retains jurisdiction in such  
14 matters, the written judgment shall include a provision that disobedience of the  
15 court order with respect to the same is punishable under ch. 785 by commitment to  
16 the county jail or house of correction until such judgment is complied with and the  
17 costs and expenses of the proceedings are paid or until the party committed is  
18 otherwise discharged, according to law. The written judgment in any action affecting  
19 the family shall include the social security numbers of the parties and of any child  
20 of the parties. The findings of fact and conclusions of law and the written judgment  
21 shall be drafted by the attorney for the moving party, and shall be submitted to the  
22 court and filed with the clerk of the court within 30 days after judgment is granted;  
23 but if the respondent has been represented by counsel, the findings, conclusions and  
24 judgment shall first be submitted to respondent's counsel for approval and if the  
25 ~~family~~ circuit court commissioner has appeared at the trial of the action, such papers



**ASSEMBLY BILL 354**

1 shall also be sent to the family circuit court commissioner for approval. After any  
2 necessary approvals are obtained, the findings of fact, conclusions of law and  
3 judgment shall be submitted to the court. Final stipulations of the parties may be  
4 appended to the judgment and incorporated by reference therein.

5 **SECTION 222.** 767.37 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 767.37 (2) So far as a judgment of divorce affects the marital status of the  
7 parties the court has the power to vacate or modify the judgment for sufficient cause  
8 shown, upon its own motion, or upon the application of both parties to the action, at  
9 any time within 6 months from the granting of such judgment. No such judgment  
10 shall be vacated or modified without service of notice of motion on the office of family  
11 court commissioner. The court may direct ~~the family~~ a circuit court commissioner or  
12 appoint some other attorney, to bring appropriate proceedings for the vacation of the  
13 judgment. The compensation of the family circuit court commissioner when not on  
14 a salaried basis or other attorney for performing such services shall be at the rate of  
15 \$50 per day, which shall be paid out of the county treasury upon order of the presiding  
16 judge and the certificate of the clerk of the court. If the judgment is vacated it shall  
17 restore the parties to the marital relation that existed before the granting of such  
18 judgment. If after vacation of the judgment either of the parties brings an action in  
19 this state for divorce against the other the court may order the petitioner in such  
20 action to reimburse the county the amount paid by it to the family circuit court  
21 commissioner or other attorney in connection with such vacation proceedings.  
22 Whenever a judgment of divorce is set aside under this subsection, the court shall  
23 order the record in the action impounded without regard to s. 767.19; and thereafter  
24 neither the record nor any part of the record shall be offered or admitted into evidence  
25 in any action or proceeding except by special order of the court of jurisdiction upon

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354**

**SECTION 222**

1 good cause shown in any paternity proceedings under this chapter or by special order  
2 of any court of record upon a showing of necessity to clear title to real estate.

3 **SECTION 223.** 767.45 (5) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 767.45 (5) (b) An action under this section may be joined with any other action  
5 for child support and shall be governed by the procedures specified in s. 767.05  
6 relating to child support, except that the title of the action shall be "In re the  
7 paternity of A.B." The petition shall state the name and date of birth of the child if  
8 born or that the mother is pregnant if the child is unborn, the name of any alleged  
9 father, whether or not an action by any of the parties to determine the paternity of  
10 the child or rebut the presumption of paternity to the child has at any time been  
11 commenced, or is pending before any judge or circuit court commissioner, in this state  
12 or elsewhere. If a paternity judgment has been rendered, or if a paternity action has  
13 been dismissed, the petition shall state the court which rendered the judgment or  
14 dismissed the action, and the date and the place the judgment was granted if known.  
15 The petition shall also give notice of a party's right to request a genetic test under  
16 s. 49.225 or 767.48.

17 **SECTION 224.** 767.455 (5) (form) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 767.455 (5) (form)

19 STATE OF WISCONSIN,

CIRCUIT COURT: ....COUNTY

20 \_\_\_\_\_

21 In re the Paternity of A. B.

22 STATE OF WISCONSIN

23 and

24 C. D.

25 Address

ASSEMBLY BILL 354

1 City, State Zip Code

File No. ...

2 , Petitioners

3 vs.

S U M M O N S

4 E. F.

5 Address .... (Case Classification Type): .... (Code No.)

6 City, State Zip Code

7 , Respondent

8

9 THE STATE OF WISCONSIN, To the Respondent:

10 You have been sued. .... claims that you are the father of the child, .... born on  
11 .... (date), in .... (city) (county) (state). You must appear to answer this claim of  
12 paternity. Your court appearance is:

13 Date: .....

14 Time: .....

15 Room: .....

16 Judge or Family Circuit Court Commissioner: .....

17 Address: .....

18 If you do not appear, the court will enter a default judgment finding you to be  
19 the father. A default judgment will take effect 30 days after it is served on or mailed  
20 to you, unless within those 30 days you present to the court evidence of good cause  
21 for failure to appear. If you plan to be represented by an attorney, you should contact  
22 the attorney prior to the court appearance listed above. If you are unable to afford  
23 an attorney, the court will appoint one for you only upon the blood tests showing that  
24 you are not excluded as the father and the probability of your being the father is less  
25 than 99.0%. Appearance is not required if you complete the attached waiver of first

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 224**

1 appearance statement and send it to the court at least 10 days prior to the date of  
2 your scheduled appearance in this summons.

3 Dated: ....., .... (year)

4 Signed:..... .....

5 G. H., Clerk of Circuit Court

6 or

7 Petitioner's Attorney

8 State Bar No.: .....

9 Address: .....

10 City, State Zip Code: .....

11 Phone No.: .....

12 **SECTION 225.** 767.458 (1m) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 767.458 **(1m)** In an action to establish the paternity of a child who was born  
14 to a woman while she was married, where a man other than the woman's husband  
15 alleges that he, not the husband, is the child's father, a party may allege that a  
16 judicial determination that a man other than the husband is the father is not in the  
17 best interest of the child. If the court or a circuit or supplemental court commissioner  
18 under s. ~~757.69 (3)~~ 757.675 (2) (g) determines that a judicial determination of  
19 whether a man other than the husband is the father is not in the best interest of the  
20 child, no genetic tests may be ordered and the action shall be dismissed.

21 **SECTION 226.** 767.46 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

22 767.46 **(1)** A pretrial hearing shall be held before the court or a circuit or  
23 supplemental court commissioner under s. ~~757.69 (3)~~ 757.675 (2) (g). A record or  
24 minutes of the proceeding shall be kept. At the pretrial hearing the parties may

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354**

1 present and cross-examine witnesses, request genetic tests and present other  
2 evidence relevant to the determination of paternity.

3 **SECTION 227.** 767.463 of the statutes is amended to read:

4 **767.463 Dismissal if adjudication not in child's best interest.** Except as  
5 provided in s. 767.458 (1m), at any time in an action to establish the paternity of a  
6 child, upon the motion of a party or guardian ad litem, the court or circuit or  
7 supplemental court commissioner under s. ~~757.69 (3)~~ 757.675 (2) (g) may, with  
8 respect to a man, refuse to order genetic tests, if genetic tests have not yet been taken,  
9 and dismiss the action if the court or circuit or supplemental court commissioner  
10 determines that a judicial determination of whether the man is the father of the child  
11 is not in the best interest of the child.

12 **SECTION 228.** 767.465 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 767.465 (2) (a) Except as provided in sub. (2m), if a respondent is the alleged  
14 father and fails to appear at the first appearance, unless the first appearance is not  
15 required under s. 767.457 (2), scheduled court-ordered genetic test, pretrial hearing  
16 or trial, the court shall enter an order adjudicating the respondent to be the father  
17 and appropriate orders for support, legal custody and physical placement. The  
18 orders shall be either served on the respondent or mailed by regular, registered or  
19 certified mail, to the last-known address of the respondent. The orders shall take  
20 effect 30 days after service or 30 days after the date on which the orders were mailed  
21 unless, within that time, the respondent presents to the court or a circuit or  
22 supplemental court commissioner under s. ~~757.69 (3) (g)~~ 757.675 (2) (g) evidence of  
23 good cause for failure to appear or failure to have undergone a court-ordered genetic  
24 test.

25 **SECTION 229.** 767.62 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 229**

1           767.62 (2) (b) If a statement acknowledging paternity is timely rescinded as  
2 provided in s. 69.15 (3m), a court or family circuit court commissioner may not enter  
3 an order specified in sub. (4) with respect to the man who signed the statement as  
4 the father of the child unless the man is adjudicated the child's father using the  
5 procedures set forth in ss. 767.45 to 767.60.

6           **SECTION 230.** 767.62 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

7           767.62 (3) (b) Except as provided in s. 767.045, in an action specified in par. (a)  
8 the court or family a circuit court commissioner may appoint a guardian ad litem for  
9 the child and shall appoint a guardian ad litem for a party who is a minor, unless the  
10 minor party is represented by an attorney.

11           **SECTION 231.** 767.62 (4) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

12           767.62 (4) **ORDERS WHEN PATERNITY ACKNOWLEDGED.** (intro.) In an action under  
13 sub. (3) (a), if the persons who signed and filed the statement acknowledging  
14 paternity as parents of the child had notice of the hearing, the court or family circuit  
15 court commissioner shall make an order that contains all of the following provisions:

16           **SECTION 232.** 769.102 of the statutes is amended to read:

17           **769.102 Tribunal of this state.** The courts and circuit and supplemental  
18 court commissioners are the tribunal of this state.

19           **SECTION 233.** 769.302 of the statutes is amended to read:

20           **769.302 Action by minor parent.** A minor parent, or a guardian or other  
21 legal representative of a minor parent, may maintain a proceeding on behalf of or for  
22 the benefit of the minor's child. Notwithstanding s. 767.045 (1) or 803.01 (3), the  
23 court may appoint a guardian ad litem for the minor's child, but the court need not  
24 appoint a guardian ad litem for a minor parent who maintains such a proceeding  
25 unless the proceeding is one for the determination of parentage, in which case the

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354**

1 court or a family circuit court commissioner shall appoint a guardian ad litem for a  
2 minor parent within this state who maintains such a proceeding or for a minor within  
3 this state who is alleged to be a parent, as provided in s. 767.475 (1).

4 **SECTION 234.** 782.01 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 782.01 (3) In this chapter, unless the context requires otherwise, judge includes  
6 the supreme court, the court of appeals and circuit courts and each justice and judge  
7 thereof and circuit and supplemental court commissioners; and prisoner includes  
8 every person restrained of personal liberty; and imprisoned includes every such  
9 restraint, and respondent means the person on whom the writ is to be served.

10 **SECTION 235.** 782.03 of the statutes is amended to read:

11 **782.03 Petition for writ.** Application for the writ shall be by petition, signed  
12 either by the prisoner or by some person in his or her behalf, and may be made to the  
13 supreme court, the court of appeals or the circuit court of the county, or to any justice  
14 or judge of the supreme court, court of appeals or circuit court or to any circuit or  
15 supplemental court commissioner, within the county where the prisoner is detained;  
16 or if there is no judge within the county, or for any cause he or she is incapable of  
17 acting, or has refused to grant the writ, then to some judge residing in an adjoining  
18 county; but every application, made by or on behalf of a person sentenced to the state  
19 prisons, must contain a copy of any motion made under s. 974.06 and shall indicate  
20 the disposition of the motion and the court in which the disposition was made. If no  
21 motion was made, the petition shall so state.

22 **SECTION 236.** 782.28 of the statutes is amended to read:

23 **782.28 Transfer from circuit court commissioner.** If the writ is returnable  
24 before a circuit court commissioner, either party may make a request for transfer to  
25 the court in which the matter is filed. Upon receipt of such request the circuit court

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 236**

1 commissioner shall forthwith transmit all papers and records in the proceedings to  
2 the court.

3 **SECTION 237.** 799.03 of the statutes is amended to read:

4 **799.03 Definition.** In this chapter unless otherwise designated, “court”  
5 means circuit court and “court” does not mean circuit court commissioner.

6 **SECTION 238.** 799.05 (7) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 799.05 (7) FORM; CIRCUIT COURT COMMISSIONER. (intro.) Except as provided in  
8 s. 799.22 (4) (b) 3., in counties ~~establishing at least one part-time or full-time court~~  
9 ~~commissioner position under s. 757.68 (1) (b)~~ in which a circuit court commissioner  
10 is assigned to assist in small claims matters, the summons shall be substantially in  
11 the following form:

12 **SECTION 239.** 799.06 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 799.06 (1) PLEADINGS. All pleadings except the initial complaint may be oral.  
14 Any circuit court may by rule require written pleadings and any judge or circuit court  
15 commissioner may require written pleadings in a particular case.

16 **SECTION 240.** 799.11 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 799.11 (3) When, in any action under this chapter, it appears from the return  
18 of service of the summons or otherwise that the county in which the action is pending  
19 is not a proper place of trial and that another county would be a proper place of trial,  
20 the court or circuit court commissioner shall, on motion of a party or its own motion,  
21 transfer the action to that county unless the defendant appears and waives the  
22 improper venue. The clerk of the court to which the action is transferred shall issue  
23 a new notice of return date upon payment of the fee required by s. 814.61 (2) (a).

24 **SECTION 241.** 799.20 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:



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1           799.20 (4) INQUIRY OF DEFENDANT WHO APPEARS ON RETURN DATE. If the defendant  
2 appears on the return date of the summons or any adjourned date thereof, the court  
3 or circuit court commissioner shall make sufficient inquiry of the defendant to  
4 determine whether the defendant claims a defense to the action. If it appears to the  
5 court or circuit court commissioner that the defendant claims a defense to the action,  
6 the court or circuit court commissioner shall schedule a trial of all the issues involved  
7 in the action, unless the parties stipulate otherwise or the action is subject to  
8 immediate dismissal.

9           **SECTION 242.** 799.206 (1), (2) and (4) of the statutes are amended to read:

10           799.206 (1) In counties establishing ~~at least one part-time or full-time~~ a circuit  
11 court commissioner position under s. 757.68 (1) ~~(b)~~ (5m), all actions and proceedings  
12 commenced under this chapter shall be returnable before a circuit court  
13 commissioner appointed under s. 757.68 (1) and SCR chapter 75. In any other  
14 county, a circuit court commissioner may conduct return date proceedings if  
15 delegated such authority under s. 757.69 (1) (d).

16           (2) Judgment on failure to appear may be entered by the circuit court  
17 commissioner or the clerk upon the return date as provided in s. 799.22.

18           (4) Except as provided in sub. (3), the circuit court commissioner shall hear all  
19 matters using the procedures set forth in s. 799.207.

20           **SECTION 243.** 799.207 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

21           **799.207 (title) Proceedings before circuit court commissioner.**

22           **SECTION 244.** 799.207 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

23           799.207 (1) (a) Any circuit court commissioner assigned to assist in the  
24 ~~administration of small claims~~ matters may hold a conference with the parties or  
25 their attorneys or both on the return date, examine pleadings and identify issues.

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1           **SECTION 245.** 799.207 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           799.207 (1) (b) Except as provided in par. (e), a decision shall be rendered by  
3 the circuit court commissioner on the return date if there is time available for a  
4 hearing, the parties do not intend to call witnesses, and the parties agree to such a  
5 hearing. If for any of the reasons stated in this paragraph, the matter cannot be  
6 heard on the return date, an adjourned date shall be set.

7           **SECTION 246.** 799.207 (1) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

8           799.207 (1) (e) If the circuit court commissioner cannot reach a decision on the  
9 return or adjourned date, the commissioner shall mail the decision to each party  
10 within 30 days of the date of the hearing.

11           **SECTION 247.** 799.207 (2) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

12           799.207 (2) (intro.) The circuit court commissioner's decision shall become a  
13 judgment 11 days after rendering, if oral, and 16 days after mailing, if written, except  
14 that:

15           **SECTION 248.** 799.207 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

16           799.207 (3) (b) The circuit court commissioner shall give each of the parties a  
17 form and instructions which shall be used for giving notice of an election to have the  
18 matter heard by the court.

19           **SECTION 249.** 799.209 (1) to (4) of the statutes are amended to read:

20           **799.209 (1)** The court or circuit court commissioner shall conduct the  
21 proceeding informally, allowing each party to present arguments and proofs and to  
22 examine witnesses to the extent reasonably required for full and true disclosure of  
23 the facts.

24           **(2)** The proceedings shall not be governed by the common law or statutory rules  
25 of evidence except those relating to privileges under ch. 905 or to admissibility under

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1 s. 901.05. The court or circuit court commissioner shall admit all other evidence  
2 having reasonable probative value, but may exclude irrelevant or repetitious  
3 evidence or arguments. An essential finding of fact may not be based solely on a  
4 declarant's oral hearsay statement unless it would be admissible under the rules of  
5 evidence.

6 (3) The court or circuit court commissioner may conduct questioning of the  
7 witnesses and shall endeavor to ensure that the claims or defenses of all parties are  
8 fairly presented to the court or circuit court commissioner.

9 (4) The court or circuit court commissioner shall establish the order of trial and  
10 the procedure to be followed in the presentation of evidence and arguments in an  
11 appropriate manner consistent with the ends of justice and the prompt resolution of  
12 the dispute on its merits according to the substantive law.

13 **SECTION 250.** 799.21 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 799.21 (3) (b) In counties ~~establishing at least one part-time or full-time court~~  
15 ~~commissioner position under s. 757.68 (1) (b) in which a circuit court commissioner~~  
16 is assigned to assist in small claims matters, except in eviction actions which shall  
17 be governed by par. (a), demand for trial by jury shall be made at the time a demand  
18 for trial is filed. If the party requesting a trial does not request a jury trial, any other  
19 party may request a jury trial by filing the request with the court and mailing copies  
20 to all other parties within 15 days from the date of mailing of the demand for trial  
21 or the date on which personal notice of demand is given, whichever is applicable. If  
22 no party demands a trial by jury, the right to trial by jury is waived forever. The fees  
23 prescribed in ss. 814.61 (4) and 814.62 (3) (e) shall be paid when the demand for a  
24 trial by jury is filed.

25 **SECTION 251.** 799.21 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           799.21 (4) JURY PROCEDURE. If there is a demand for a trial by jury, the judge  
2 or circuit court commissioner shall place the case on the trial calendar and a jury of  
3 6 persons shall be chosen as provided in s. 345.43 (3) (b). The parties shall proceed  
4 as if the action had originally been begun as a proceeding under chs. 801 to 807,  
5 except that the court is not required to provide the jury with one complete set of  
6 written instructions under s. 805.13 (4) and the requirements for appearance by the  
7 parties shall be governed by s. 799.06 (2).

8           **SECTION 252.** 799.24 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

9           799.24 (1) ENTRY OF JUDGMENT OR ORDER; NOTICE OF ENTRY THEREOF. When a  
10 judgment or an order is rendered, the judge, circuit court commissioner or clerk of  
11 circuit court shall immediately enter it in the court record and note the date thereof  
12 which shall be the date of entry of judgment or order. The clerk of circuit court, except  
13 in municipal and county forfeiture actions, shall mail a notice of entry of judgment  
14 to the parties or their attorneys at their last-known address within 5 days of its  
15 entry. Upon payment of the exact amount of the fee prescribed in s. 814.62 (3) (c),  
16 the clerk of circuit court shall enter the judgment in the judgment and lien docket.

17           **SECTION 253.** 799.24 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

18           799.24 (3) STIPULATED DISMISSAL. Prior to the entry of judgment, upon  
19 stipulation of the parties to a schedule for compliance with the stipulation, the court  
20 or circuit court commissioner may enter a stipulated judgment of dismissal in lieu  
21 thereof. Any such judgment may be vacated without notice to the obligated party,  
22 and the unsatisfied portion thereof entered, upon application by the prevailing party  
23 and proof by affidavit of noncompliance with the terms of the stipulation.

24           **SECTION 254.** 799.26 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           799.26 (1) When a judgment for money damages is entered under this chapter,  
2 the court or circuit court commissioner shall order the judgment debtor to execute  
3 under penalty of contempt a disclosure statement and to mail or deliver that  
4 statement to the judgment creditor or to the clerk of circuit court in the county where  
5 the judgment is entered within 15 days of entry of judgment unless the judgment is  
6 sooner satisfied. The statement shall disclose, as of the date of judgment, the debtor's  
7 name, residence address, employers and their addresses, any real property interests  
8 owned by the debtor, cash on hand, financial institutions in which the judgment  
9 debtor has funds on deposit, whether the debtor's earnings are totally exempt from  
10 garnishment under s. 812.34 (2) (b), and such other information as required by the  
11 schedules adopted under sub. (3).

12           **SECTION 255.** 803.01 (3) (b) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

13           803.01 (3) (b) 1. The guardian ad litem shall be appointed by a circuit court of  
14 the county where the action is to be commenced or is pending, except that the  
15 guardian ad litem shall be appointed by a family circuit court commissioner of the  
16 county in actions to establish paternity that are before the family circuit court  
17 commissioner.

18           **SECTION 256.** 807.02 of the statutes is amended to read:

19           **807.02 Motions, where heard; stay of proceedings.** Except as provided in  
20 s. 807.13 or when the parties stipulate otherwise and the court approves, motions in  
21 actions or proceedings in the circuit court must be heard within the circuit where the  
22 action is triable. Orders out of court, not requiring notice, may be made by the  
23 presiding judge of the court in any part of the state. No order to stay proceedings  
24 after a verdict, report or finding in any circuit court may be made by a circuit or

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1 supplemental court commissioner. No stay of proceedings for more than 20 days may  
2 be granted except upon previous notice to the adverse party.

3 **SECTION 257.** 807.04 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 807.04 (1) Except as provided under sub. (2), all trials, and all hearings at  
5 which oral testimony is to be presented, shall be held in open court. The court may  
6 make any order which a judge or a circuit or supplemental court commissioner has  
7 power to make. ~~Court commissioners shall have the powers provided in ch. 753 or~~  
8 ~~by other statute.~~

9 **SECTION 258.** 807.09 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

10 807.09 (1) A circuit judge of the circuit court of any county may appoint and  
11 remove at any time, any retired or former circuit or county court judge to act, in  
12 matters referred by the judge and in conciliation matters. When a matter for  
13 conciliation is referred for such purpose, the conciliator shall have full authority to  
14 hear, determine and report findings to the court. Such conciliators may be appointed  
15 circuit court commissioners as provided in ~~s. 757.68~~ under SCR 75.02 (1).

16 **SECTION 259.** 812.30 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 812.30 (2) "Court" includes a circuit court commissioner assigned to preside at  
18 a proceeding under this subchapter.

19 **SECTION 260.** 813.025 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 813.025 (1) No circuit or supplemental court commissioner shall may issue any  
21 injunction or order suspending or restraining the enforcement or execution of any  
22 statute of the state or of any order of an administrative officer, board, department,  
23 commission or other state agency purporting to be made pursuant to the statutes of  
24 the state. If so issued ~~such,~~ the injunction or order shall be void.

25 **SECTION 261.** 813.12 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           813.12 (2) (a) No action under this section may be commenced by complaint and  
2 summons. An action under this section may be commenced only by a petition  
3 described under sub. (5) (a). The action commences with service of the petition upon  
4 the respondent if a copy of the petition is filed before service or promptly after service.  
5 If the judge or family a circuit court commissioner extends the time for a hearing  
6 under sub. (3) (c) and the petitioner files an affidavit with the court stating that  
7 personal service by the sheriff or a private server under s. 801.11 (1) (a) or (b) was  
8 unsuccessful because the respondent is avoiding service by concealment or  
9 otherwise, the petitioner may serve the respondent by publication of the petition as  
10 a class 1 notice, under ch. 985, and by mailing if the respondent's post-office address  
11 is known or can with due diligence be ascertained. The mailing may be omitted if the  
12 post-office address cannot be ascertained with due diligence.

13           **SECTION 262.** 813.12 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

14           813.12 (2) (b) A petition may be filed in conjunction with an action affecting the  
15 family commenced under ch. 767, but commencement of an action affecting the  
16 family or any other action is not necessary for the filing of a petition or the issuance  
17 of a temporary restraining order or an injunction. A judge or family circuit court  
18 commissioner may not make findings or issue orders under s. 767.23 or 767.24 while  
19 granting relief requested only under this section. Section 813.06 does not apply to  
20 an action under this section. The respondent may respond to the petition either in  
21 writing before or at the hearing on the issuance of the injunction or orally at that  
22 hearing.

23           **SECTION 263.** 813.12 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

24           813.12 (3) (a) A judge or family circuit court commissioner shall issue a  
25 temporary restraining order ordering the respondent to refrain from committing acts

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1 of domestic abuse against the petitioner, to avoid the petitioner's residence, except  
2 as provided in par. (am), or any premises temporarily occupied by the petitioner or  
3 both, or to avoid contacting or causing any person other than a party's attorney to  
4 contact the petitioner unless the petitioner consents in writing, or any combination  
5 of these remedies requested in the petition, if all of the following occur:

6 1. The petitioner submits to the judge or family circuit court commissioner a  
7 petition alleging the elements set forth under sub. (5) (a).

8 2. The judge or family circuit court commissioner finds reasonable grounds to  
9 believe that the respondent has engaged in, or based on prior conduct of the  
10 petitioner and the respondent may engage in, domestic abuse of the petitioner. In  
11 determining whether to issue a temporary restraining order, the judge or family  
12 circuit court commissioner shall consider the potential danger posed to the petitioner  
13 and the pattern of abusive conduct of the respondent but may not base his or her  
14 decision solely on the length of time since the last domestic abuse or the length of time  
15 since the relationship ended. The judge or family circuit court commissioner may  
16 grant only the remedies requested or approved by the petitioner.

17 **SECTION 264.** 813.12 (3) (am) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 813.12 (3) (am) If the petitioner and the respondent are not married, the  
19 respondent owns the premises where the petitioner resides and the petitioner has  
20 no legal interest in the premises, in lieu of ordering the respondent to avoid the  
21 petitioner's residence under par. (a) the judge or family circuit court commissioner  
22 may order the respondent to avoid the premises for a reasonable time until the  
23 petitioner relocates and shall order the respondent to avoid the new residence for the  
24 duration of the order.

25 **SECTION 265.** 813.12 (3) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:



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1           813.12 (3) (c) The temporary restraining order is in effect until a hearing is held  
2           on issuance of an injunction under sub. (4). The temporary restraining order is not  
3           voided if the respondent is admitted into a dwelling that the order directs him or her  
4           to avoid. A judge or family circuit court commissioner shall hold a hearing on  
5           issuance of an injunction within 7 days after the temporary restraining order is  
6           issued, unless the time is extended upon the written consent of the parties or  
7           extended once for 14 days upon a finding that the respondent has not been served  
8           with a copy of the temporary restraining order although the petitioner has exercised  
9           due diligence.

10           **SECTION 266.** 813.12 (3) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

11           813.12 (3) (d) The judge or circuit court commissioner shall advise the  
12           petitioner of the right to serve the respondent the petition by published notice if with  
13           due diligence the respondent cannot be served as provided under s. 801.11 (1) (a) or  
14           (b). The clerk of circuit court shall assist the petitioner with the preparation of the  
15           notice and filing of the affidavit of printing.

16           **SECTION 267.** 813.12 (4) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

17           813.12 (4) (a) (intro.) A judge or family circuit court commissioner may grant  
18           an injunction ordering the respondent to refrain from committing acts of domestic  
19           abuse against the petitioner, to avoid the petitioner's residence, except as provided  
20           in par. (am), or any premises temporarily occupied by the petitioner or both, or to  
21           avoid contacting or causing any person other than a party's attorney to contact the  
22           petitioner unless the petitioner consents to that contact in writing, or any  
23           combination of these remedies requested in the petition, if all of the following occur:

24           **SECTION 268.** 813.12 (4) (a) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           813.12 (4) (a) 3. After hearing, the judge or family circuit court commissioner  
2 finds reasonable grounds to believe that the respondent has engaged in, or based  
3 upon prior conduct of the petitioner and the respondent may engage in, domestic  
4 abuse of the petitioner. In determining whether to issue an injunction, the judge or  
5 family circuit court commissioner shall consider the potential danger posed to the  
6 petitioner and the pattern of abusive conduct of the respondent but may not base his  
7 or her decision solely on the length of time since the last domestic abuse or the length  
8 of time since the relationship ended. The judge or family circuit court commissioner  
9 may grant only the remedies requested by the petitioner.

10           **SECTION 269.** 813.12 (4) (am) of the statutes is amended to read:

11           813.12 (4) (am) If the petitioner and the respondent are not married, the  
12 respondent owns the premises where the petitioner resides and the petitioner has  
13 no legal interest in the premises, in lieu of ordering the respondent to avoid the  
14 petitioner's residence under par. (a) the judge or family circuit court commissioner  
15 may order the respondent to avoid the premises for a reasonable time until the  
16 petitioner relocates and shall order the respondent to avoid the new residence for the  
17 duration of the order.

18           **SECTION 270.** 813.12 (4) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

19           813.12 (4) (b) The judge or family circuit court commissioner may enter an  
20 injunction only against the respondent named in the petition. No injunction may be  
21 issued under this subsection under the same case number against the person  
22 petitioning for the injunction. The judge or family circuit court commissioner may  
23 not modify an order restraining the respondent based solely on the request of the  
24 respondent.

25           **SECTION 271.** 813.12 (4m) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           813.12 (4m) (a) 2. Except as provided in par. (ag), require the respondent to  
2           surrender any firearms that he or she owns or has in his or her possession to the  
3           sheriff of the county in which the action under this section was commenced, to the  
4           sheriff of the county in which the respondent resides or to another person designated  
5           by the respondent and approved by the judge or family circuit court commissioner.  
6           The judge or circuit court commissioner shall approve the person designated by the  
7           respondent unless the judge or circuit court commissioner finds that the person is  
8           inappropriate and places the reasons for the finding on the record. If a firearm is  
9           surrendered to a person designated by the respondent and approved by the judge or  
10          family circuit court commissioner, the judge or family circuit court commissioner  
11          shall inform the person to whom the firearm is surrendered of the requirements and  
12          penalties under s. 941.29 (4).

13           **SECTION 272.** 813.12 (4m) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

14           813.12 (4m) (b) (intro.) A firearm surrendered under par. (a) 2. may not be  
15          returned to the respondent until a judge or family circuit court commissioner  
16          determines all of the following:

17           **SECTION 273.** 813.12 (4m) (b) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

18           813.12 (4m) (b) 2. That the person is not prohibited from possessing a firearm  
19          under any state or federal law or by the order of any federal court or state court, other  
20          than an order from which the judge or family circuit court commissioner is competent  
21          to grant relief.

22           **SECTION 274.** 813.12 (5) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

23           813.12 (5) (c) A judge or family circuit court commissioner shall accept any  
24          legible petition for a temporary restraining order or injunction.

25           **SECTION 275.** 813.12 (6) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

**ASSEMBLY BILL 354****SECTION 275**

1           813.12 (6) (a) If an order is issued under this section, upon request by the  
2 petitioner the court or family circuit court commissioner shall order the sheriff to  
3 accompany the petitioner and assist in placing him or her in physical possession of  
4 his or her residence or to otherwise assist in executing or serving the temporary  
5 restraining order or injunction. The petitioner may, at the petitioner's expense, use  
6 a private process server to serve papers on the respondent.

7           **SECTION 276.** 813.12 (7m) of the statutes is amended to read:

8           813.12 (7m) TRANSCRIPTS. The judge or family circuit court commissioner shall  
9 record the temporary restraining order or injunction hearing upon the request of the  
10 petitioner.

11          **SECTION 277.** 813.122 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

12          813.122 (3) (a) Procedure for an action under this section is in 2 parts. First,  
13 if the petitioner requests a temporary restraining order, the court or circuit court  
14 commissioner shall issue or refuse to issue that order. Second, the court shall hold  
15 a hearing under sub. (5) on whether to issue an injunction, which is the final relief.  
16 If the court or circuit court commissioner issues a temporary restraining order, the  
17 order shall set forth the date for the hearing on an injunction. If the court or circuit  
18 court commissioner does not issue a temporary restraining order, the date for the  
19 hearing shall be set upon motion by either party.

20          **SECTION 278.** 813.122 (3) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

21          813.122 (3) (b) (intro.) The court or circuit court commissioner, on its or his or  
22 her own motion or the motion of any party, may order one or more of the following:

23          **SECTION 279.** 813.122 (3) (bm) of the statutes is amended to read:

24          813.122 (3) (bm) The court or circuit court commissioner shall appoint a  
25 guardian ad litem if the respondent is a parent of the child.

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1           **SECTION 280.** 813.122 (4) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           813.122 (4) (a) (intro.) A judge or circuit court commissioner shall issue a  
3 temporary restraining order ordering the respondent to avoid the child victim's  
4 residence or any premises temporarily occupied by the child victim or both, and to  
5 avoid contacting or causing any person other than a party's attorney to contact the  
6 child victim unless the petitioner consents in writing and the judge or circuit court  
7 commissioner agrees that the contact is in the best interests of the child victim, if all  
8 of the following occur:

9           **SECTION 281.** 813.122 (4) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

10          813.122 (4) (a) 1. The petitioner submits to the judge or circuit court  
11 commissioner a petition alleging the elements set forth under sub. (6) (a).

12          **SECTION 282.** 813.122 (4) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

13          813.122 (4) (a) 2. The judge or circuit court commissioner finds reasonable  
14 grounds to believe that the respondent has engaged in, or based on prior conduct of  
15 the child victim and the respondent may engage in, abuse of the child victim.

16          **SECTION 283.** 813.122 (5m) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

17          813.122 (5m) (a) 2. Except as provided in par. (ag), require the respondent to  
18 surrender any firearms that he or she owns or has in his or her possession to the  
19 sheriff of the county in which the action under this section was commenced, to the  
20 sheriff of the county in which the respondent resides or to another person designated  
21 by the respondent and approved by the judge or circuit court commissioner. The  
22 judge or circuit court commissioner shall approve the person designated by the  
23 respondent unless the judge or circuit court commissioner finds that the person is  
24 inappropriate and places the reasons for the finding on the record. If a firearm is  
25 surrendered to a person designated by the respondent and approved by the judge or

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1 circuit court commissioner, the judge or circuit court commissioner shall inform the  
2 person to whom the firearm is surrendered of the requirements and penalties under  
3 s. 941.29 (4).

4 **SECTION 284.** 813.122 (5m) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 813.122 **(5m)** (b) (intro.) A firearm surrendered under par. (a) 2. may not be  
6 returned to the respondent until a judge or circuit court commissioner determines  
7 all of the following:

8 **SECTION 285.** 813.122 (5m) (b) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

9 813.122 **(5m)** (b) 2. That the person is not prohibited from possessing a firearm  
10 under any state or federal law or by the order of any federal court or state court, other  
11 than an order from which the judge or circuit court commissioner is competent to  
12 grant relief.

13 **SECTION 286.** 813.122 (9) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 813.122 **(9)** (a) If an order is issued under this section, upon request by the  
15 petitioner, the court or circuit court commissioner, as applicable, shall order the  
16 sheriff to assist in executing or serving the temporary restraining order or  
17 injunction.

18 **SECTION 287.** 813.123 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 813.123 **(3)** (a) Procedure for an action under this section is in 2 parts. First,  
20 if the petitioner requests a temporary restraining order, the court or circuit court  
21 commissioner shall issue or refuse to issue that order. Second, the court shall hold  
22 a hearing under sub. (5) on whether to issue an injunction, which is the final relief.  
23 If the court or circuit court commissioner issues a temporary restraining order, the  
24 order shall set forth the date for the hearing on an injunction. If the court or circuit

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1 court commissioner does not issue a temporary restraining order, the date for the  
2 hearing shall be set upon motion by either party.

3 **SECTION 288.** 813.123 (3) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 813.123 (3) (b) (intro.) The court or circuit court commissioner, on its or his or  
5 her own motion or the motion of any party, may order one or more of the following:

6 **SECTION 289.** 813.123 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 813.123 (4) (a) Unless the vulnerable adult, guardian or guardian ad litem  
8 consents in writing and the judge or circuit court commissioner agrees that the  
9 contact is in the best interests of the vulnerable adult, a judge or circuit court  
10 commissioner shall issue a temporary restraining order ordering the respondent to  
11 avoid interference with an investigation of the vulnerable adult under s. 55.043, the  
12 delivery of protective services to the vulnerable adult under s. 55.05 or a protective  
13 placement of the vulnerable adult under s. 55.06 if all of the following occur:

14 1. The petitioner submits to the judge or circuit court commissioner a petition  
15 alleging the elements set forth under sub. (6).

16 2. The judge or circuit court commissioner finds reasonable grounds to believe  
17 that the respondent has interfered with, or based on prior conduct of the respondent  
18 may interfere with, an investigation of the vulnerable adult under s. 55.043, the  
19 delivery of protective services to the vulnerable adult under s. 55.05 or a protective  
20 placement of the vulnerable adult under s. 55.06.

21 **SECTION 290.** 813.123 (8) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

22 813.123 (8) (a) If an order is issued under this section, upon request by the  
23 petitioner, the court or circuit court commissioner shall order the sheriff to assist in  
24 executing or serving the temporary restraining order or injunction.

25 **SECTION 291.** 813.125 (3) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           813.125 (3) (a) (intro.) A judge or circuit court commissioner may issue a  
2 temporary restraining order ordering the respondent to cease or avoid the  
3 harassment of another person, if all of the following occur:

4           **SECTION 292.** 813.125 (3) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

5           813.125 (3) (a) 2. The judge or circuit court commissioner finds reasonable  
6 grounds to believe that the respondent has violated s. 947.013.

7           **SECTION 293.** 813.125 (3) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

8           813.125 (3) (c) The temporary restraining order is in effect until a hearing is  
9 held on issuance of an injunction under sub. (4). A judge or circuit court  
10 commissioner shall hold a hearing on issuance of an injunction within 7 days after  
11 the temporary restraining order is issued, unless the time is extended upon the  
12 written consent of the parties or extended once for 7 days upon a finding that the  
13 respondent has not been served with a copy of the temporary restraining order  
14 although the petitioner has exercised due diligence.

15           **SECTION 294.** 813.125 (4) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

16           813.125 (4) (a) (intro.) A judge or circuit court commissioner may grant an  
17 injunction ordering the respondent to cease or avoid the harassment of another  
18 person, if all of the following occur:

19           **SECTION 295.** 813.125 (4) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

20           813.125 (4) (a) 2. The petitioner serves upon the respondent a copy of a  
21 restraining order obtained under sub. (3) and notice of the time for the hearing on  
22 the issuance of the injunction under sub. (3) (c). The restraining order or notice of  
23 hearing served under this subdivision shall inform the respondent that, if the judge  
24 or circuit court commissioner issues an injunction, the judge or circuit court



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1 commissioner may also order the respondent not to possess a firearm while the  
2 injunction is in effect.

3 **SECTION 296.** 813.125 (4) (a) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

4 813.125 (4) (a) 3. After hearing, the judge or circuit court commissioner finds  
5 reasonable grounds to believe that the respondent has violated s. 947.013.

6 **SECTION 297.** 813.125 (4m) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 813.125 (4m) (a) If a judge or circuit court commissioner issues an injunction  
8 under sub. (4) and the judge or circuit court commissioner determines, based on clear  
9 and convincing evidence presented at the hearing on the issuance of the injunction,  
10 that the respondent may use a firearm to cause physical harm to another or to  
11 endanger public safety, the judge or circuit court commissioner may prohibit the  
12 respondent from possessing a firearm.

13 **SECTION 298.** 813.125 (4m) (c) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

14 813.125 (4m) (c) 2. Except as provided in par. (cg), require the respondent to  
15 surrender any firearms that he or she owns or has in his or her possession to the  
16 sheriff of the county in which the action under this section was commenced, to the  
17 sheriff of the county in which the respondent resides or to another person designated  
18 by the respondent and approved by the judge or circuit court commissioner. The  
19 judge or circuit court commissioner shall approve the person designated by the  
20 respondent unless the judge or circuit court commissioner finds that the person is  
21 inappropriate and places the reasons for the finding on the record. If a firearm is  
22 surrendered to a person designated by the respondent and approved by the judge or  
23 circuit court commissioner, the judge or circuit court commissioner shall inform the  
24 person to whom the firearm is surrendered of the requirements and penalties under  
25 s. 941.29 (4).

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1           **SECTION 299.** 813.125 (4m) (d) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           813.125 (**4m**) (d) (intro.) A firearm surrendered under par. (c) 2. may not be  
3 returned to the respondent until a judge or circuit court commissioner determines  
4 all of the following:

5           **SECTION 300.** 813.125 (4m) (d) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

6           813.125 (**4m**) (d) 2. That the person is not prohibited from possessing a firearm  
7 under any state or federal law or by the order of any federal court or state court, other  
8 than an order from which the judge or circuit court commissioner is competent to  
9 grant relief.

10          **SECTION 301.** 813.125 (5) (am) of the statutes is amended to read:

11          813.125 (**5**) (am) The petition shall inform the respondent that, if the judge or  
12 circuit court commissioner issues an injunction, the judge or circuit court  
13 commissioner may also order the respondent not to possess a firearm while the  
14 injunction is in effect.

15          **SECTION 302.** 814.615 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

16          814.615 (**3**) The court or ~~family~~ a circuit court commissioner shall direct either  
17 or both parties to pay any applicable fee under this section. If either or both parties  
18 are unable to pay, the court shall grant a separate judgment for the amount of the  
19 fees in favor of the county and against the party or parties responsible for the fees.

20          **SECTION 303.** 814.68 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

21          **814.68** (title) **Fees of supplemental court commissioners.**

22          **SECTION 304.** 814.68 (1) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

23          814.68 (**1**) ~~PART-TIME~~ SUPPLEMENTAL COURT COMMISSIONERS. (intro.) A ~~part-time~~  
24 supplemental court commissioner appointed under s. ~~757.68 (2)~~ 757.675 (1) shall  
25 collect the following fees:

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1           **SECTION 305.** 814.68 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           814.68 (1) (a) A fee of \$1 for each decision, signing or filing of a document or  
3 other ministerial act required by law performed by a ~~part-time~~ supplemental court  
4 commissioner. This paragraph does not apply to testimonial proceedings or  
5 depositions taken before a supplemental court commissioner.

6           **SECTION 306.** 814.68 (1) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

7           814.68 (1) (b) (intro.) For the following duties performed by a ~~part-time~~  
8 supplemental court commissioner held in the county courthouse or other court  
9 facilities provided by law, reasonable compensation as fixed by the court but not more  
10 than the hourly equivalent of the salary of a judge of the court:

11           **SECTION 307.** 814.68 (1) (b) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

12           814.68 (1) (b) 1. Every attendance upon the hearing of any motion for an order  
13 which a supplemental court commissioner is authorized to grant and for attendance  
14 upon any motion or an official act to be done by the supplemental court commissioner.

15           **SECTION 308.** 814.68 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

16           814.68 (2) SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS. For attendance upon an examination  
17 under ch. 816, a supplemental court commissioner shall collect a fee of \$15 to be paid  
18 upon the issuance of the order under s. 816.03 (1). The fee shall be returned in any  
19 case where it appears by affidavit filed that the order was not served upon the  
20 judgment debtor. This fee is the only fee a supplemental court commissioner is  
21 entitled to for proceedings under ch. 816.

22           **SECTION 309.** 816.03 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

23           816.03 (1) (b) A supplemental court commissioner upon application of a  
24 judgment creditor shall order any judgment debtor to appear before the  
25 supplemental court commissioner and answer concerning the judgment debtor's

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1 property at a time and place specified in the order, within said county, in lieu of the  
2 procedure set forth in par. (a).

3 **SECTION 310.** 816.035 (1) and (2) of the statutes are amended to read:

4 816.035 (1) An order under s. 816.03 (1) issued by a supplemental court  
5 commissioner shall be served in the same manner as the service of a summons under  
6 s. 801.11. The return on the order shall be made to the supplemental commissioner  
7 who issued the order. The supplemental commissioner shall file the order and the  
8 return with the clerk of the court in which the judgment involved is entered.

9 (2) Upon issuance of the order, the supplemental court commissioner shall  
10 collect the fee prescribed in s. 814.68 (2) for attendance upon the examination.

11 **SECTION 311.** 818.02 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

12 818.02 (6) In a proceeding to determine paternity or to establish or revise a  
13 child support or maintenance obligation, if the court or ~~family~~ a circuit court  
14 commissioner finds that the petitioner cannot effect service of process upon the  
15 respondent despite due diligence on the part of the petitioner or after the respondent  
16 is personally served but fails to appear on the return date, on the date set for the  
17 pretrial hearing or on the date set for the trial.

18 **SECTION 312.** 879.61 of the statutes is amended to read:

19 **879.61 Discovery proceedings.** Any personal representative or any person  
20 interested who suspects that any other person has concealed, stolen, conveyed or  
21 disposed of property of the estate; or is indebted to the decedent; possesses, controls  
22 or has knowledge of concealed property of the decedent; possesses, controls or has  
23 knowledge of writings which contain evidence of or tend to disclose the right, title,  
24 interest or claim of the decedent to any property; or possesses, controls or has  
25 knowledge of any will of the decedent, may file a petition in the court so stating. The

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1 court upon, such notice as it directs, may order the other person to appear before the  
2 court or a circuit court commissioner for disclosure, may subpoena witnesses and  
3 compel the production of evidence, and may make any order in relation to the matter  
4 as is just and proper.

5 **SECTION 313.** 885.10 of the statutes is amended to read:

6 **885.10 Witness for indigent respondent or defendant.** Upon satisfactory  
7 proof of the financial inability of the respondent or defendant to procure the  
8 attendance of witnesses for his or her defense, the judge or supplemental court  
9 commissioner, in any paternity proceeding or criminal action or proceeding, or in any  
10 other case in which the respondent or defendant is represented by the state public  
11 defender or by assigned counsel under s. 977.08, to be tried or heard before him or  
12 her, may direct the witnesses to be subpoenaed as he or she determines is proper and  
13 necessary, upon the respondent's or defendant's oath or affidavit or that of the  
14 respondent's or defendant's attorney. Witnesses so subpoenaed shall be paid their  
15 fees in the manner that witnesses for the state therein are paid. Determination of  
16 indigency, in full or in part, under s. 977.07 is proof of the respondent's or defendant's  
17 financial inability to procure the attendance of witnesses for his or her defense.

18 **SECTION 314.** 885.12 of the statutes is amended to read:

19 **885.12 Coercing witnesses before officers and boards.** If any person,  
20 without reasonable excuse, fails to attend as a witness, or to testify as lawfully  
21 required before any arbitrator, coroner, medical examiner, board, commission,  
22 commissioner, examiner, committee, or other officer or person authorized to take  
23 testimony, or to produce a book or paper which the person was lawfully directed to  
24 bring, or to subscribe the person's deposition when correctly reduced to writing, any  
25 judge of a court of record or a circuit court commissioner in the county where the

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1 person was obliged to attend may, upon sworn proof of the facts, issue an attachment  
2 for the person, and unless the person shall purge the contempt and go and testify or  
3 do such other act as required by law, may commit the person to close confinement in  
4 the county jail until the person shall so testify or do such act, or be discharged  
5 according to law. The sheriff of the county shall execute the commitment.

6 **SECTION 315.** 887.26 (7) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 887.26 (7) FEES. The persons who take depositions and the witness shall be  
8 entitled to the fees allowed supplemental court commissioners under s. 814.68 (1)  
9 and witnesses for similar service by the law of this state, or such as may be prescribed  
10 by the law of the state or country where taken.

11 **SECTION 316.** 898.02 of the statutes is amended to read:

12 **898.02 Notice to plaintiff.** The person shall cause notice to be given to the  
13 plaintiff in the action, the plaintiff's agent or attorney, in writing, that at a time and  
14 place specified in the notice the person will apply to the circuit judge or circuit court  
15 commissioner of the county in which the person is so confined for the purpose of  
16 obtaining a discharge from imprisonment.

17 **SECTION 317.** 898.04 of the statutes is amended to read:

18 **898.04 Prisoner to be examined.** At the time and place specified in the  
19 notice the person shall be taken, under the custody of the jailer, the sheriff or the  
20 sheriff's deputy, before the circuit judge or circuit court commissioner, who shall  
21 examine the prisoner on oath concerning his or her estate and effects and the  
22 disposal thereof and the prisoner's ability to pay the judgment for which he or she  
23 is committed; and who shall also hear any other legal and pertinent evidence that  
24 may be produced by the debtor or the creditor.

25 **SECTION 318.** 898.11 of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           **898.11 Inability to pay fees.** If the prisoner is unable to pay in whole or in  
2 part the fees of the circuit judge ~~or court commissioner~~ in the proceedings, the  
3 proceedings shall continue without charge to the prisoner.

4           **SECTION 319.** 906.15 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

5           906.15 (1) At the request of a party, the judge or a circuit court commissioner  
6 shall order witnesses excluded so that they cannot hear the testimony of other  
7 witnesses. The judge or circuit court commissioner may also make the order of his  
8 or her own motion.

9           **SECTION 320.** 906.15 (2) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

10           906.15 (2) (d) A victim, as defined in s. 950.02 (4), in a criminal case or a victim,  
11 as defined in s. 938.02 (20m), in a delinquency proceeding under ch. 938, unless the  
12 judge or circuit court commissioner finds that exclusion of the victim is necessary to  
13 provide a fair trial for the defendant or a fair fact-finding hearing for the juvenile.  
14 The presence of a victim during the testimony of other witnesses may not by itself  
15 be a basis for a finding that exclusion of the victim is necessary to provide a fair trial  
16 for the defendant or a fair fact-finding hearing for the juvenile.

17           **SECTION 321.** 906.15 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

18           906.15 (3) The judge or circuit court commissioner may direct that all excluded  
19 and non-excluded witnesses be kept separate until called and may prevent them  
20 from communicating with one another until they have been examined or the hearing  
21 is ended.

22           **SECTION 322.** 911.01 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

23           911.01 (1) COURTS AND COURT COMMISSIONERS. Chapters 901 to 911 apply to the  
24 courts of the state of Wisconsin, including municipal courts, ~~family court~~  
25 ~~commissioners~~, and circuit, supplemental, and municipal court commissioners, in

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1 the proceedings and to the extent hereinafter set forth except as provided in s. 972.11.  
2 The word “judge” in chs. 901 to 911 means judge of a court of record, municipal judge,  
3 ~~family or circuit, supplemental, or municipal~~ court commissioner, ~~and court~~  
4 ~~commissioner.~~

5 **SECTION 323.** 938.06 (1) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

6 938.06 (1) (a) 2. The chief judge of the judicial administrative district shall  
7 formulate written judicial policy governing intake and court services for juvenile  
8 matters under this chapter and the director shall be charged with executing the  
9 judicial policy. The chief judge shall direct and supervise the work of all personnel  
10 of the court, except the work of the district attorney or corporation counsel assigned  
11 to the court. The chief judge may delegate his or her supervisory functions ~~under s.~~  
12 ~~938.065 (1).~~

13 **SECTION 324.** 938.065 of the statutes is repealed.

14 **SECTION 325.** 938.208 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

15 938.208 (4) Probable cause exists to believe that the juvenile, having been  
16 placed in nonsecure custody by an intake worker under s. 938.207 or by the judge or  
17 ~~juvenile circuit~~ court commissioner under s. 938.21 (4), has run away or committed  
18 a delinquent act and no other suitable alternative exists.

19 **SECTION 326.** 938.21 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 938.21 (1) (a) If a juvenile who has been taken into custody is not released  
21 under s. 938.20, a hearing to determine whether the juvenile shall continue to be held  
22 in custody under the criteria of ss. 938.205 to 938.209 (1) shall be conducted by the  
23 judge or ~~juvenile a circuit~~ court commissioner within 24 hours after the end of the  
24 day that the decision to hold the juvenile was made, excluding Saturdays, Sundays  
25 and legal holidays. By the time of the hearing a petition under s. 938.25 shall be filed,



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1       except that no petition need be filed where a juvenile is taken into custody under s.  
2       938.19 (1) (b) or (d) 2., 6. or 7. or where the juvenile is a runaway from another state,  
3       in which case a written statement of the reasons for holding a juvenile in custody  
4       shall be substituted if the petition is not filed. If no hearing has been held within 24  
5       hours or if no petition or statement has been filed at the time of the hearing, the  
6       juvenile shall be released except as provided in par. (b). A parent not present at the  
7       hearing shall be granted a rehearing upon request.

8               **SECTION 327.** 938.21 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

9               938.21 (1) (b) If no petition has been filed by the time of the hearing, a juvenile  
10       may be held in custody with the approval of the judge or juvenile circuit court  
11       commissioner for an additional 48 hours from the time of the hearing only if, as a  
12       result of the facts brought forth at the hearing, the judge or juvenile circuit court  
13       commissioner determines that probable cause exists to believe that the juvenile is  
14       an imminent danger to himself or herself or to others, or that probable cause exists  
15       to believe that the parent, guardian or legal custodian of the juvenile or other  
16       responsible adult is neglecting, refusing, unable or unavailable to provide adequate  
17       supervision and care. The extension may be granted only once for any petition. In  
18       the event of failure to file a petition within the 48-hour extension period provided  
19       for in this paragraph, the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner shall order the  
20       juvenile's immediate release from custody.

21               **SECTION 328.** 938.21 (2) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

22               938.21 (2) (c) Prior to the commencement of the hearing, the juvenile shall be  
23       informed by the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner of the allegations that  
24       have been or may be made, the nature and possible consequences of this hearing as  
25       compared to possible future hearings, the provisions of s. 938.18 if applicable, the

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1 right to counsel under s. 938.23 regardless of ability to pay if the juvenile is not yet  
2 represented by counsel, the right to remain silent, the fact that the silence may not  
3 be adversely considered by the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner, the right  
4 to confront and cross-examine witnesses and the right to present witnesses.

5 **SECTION 329.** 938.21 (4) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 938.21 (4) (intro.) If the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner finds that  
7 the juvenile should be continued in custody under the criteria of s. 938.205, he or she  
8 shall enter one of the following orders:

9 **SECTION 330.** 938.21 (4m) of the statutes is amended to read:

10 938.21 (4m) ELECTRONIC MONITORING. The judge or juvenile circuit court  
11 commissioner may include in an order under sub. (4) (a) or (b) a condition that the  
12 juvenile be monitored by an electronic monitoring system.

13 **SECTION 331.** 938.21 (7) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 938.21 (7) DEFERRED PROSECUTION. If the judge or juvenile circuit court  
15 commissioner determines that the best interests of the juvenile and the public are  
16 served, he or she may enter a consent decree under s. 938.32 or order the petition  
17 dismissed and refer the matter to the intake worker for deferred prosecution in  
18 accordance with s. 938.245.

19 **SECTION 332.** 938.30 (9) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 938.30 (9) If a circuit court commissioner conducts the plea hearing and accepts  
21 an admission of the alleged facts in a petition brought under s. 938.12 or 938.13, the  
22 judge shall review the admission at the beginning of the dispositional hearing by  
23 addressing the parties and making the inquires set forth in sub. (8).

24 **SECTION 333.** 938.32 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           938.32 (1) (a) At any time after the filing of a petition for a proceeding relating  
2 to s. 938.12 or 938.13 and before the entry of judgment, the judge or juvenile circuit  
3 court commissioner may suspend the proceedings and place the juvenile under  
4 supervision in the juvenile's own home or present placement. The court may  
5 establish terms and conditions applicable to the parent, guardian or legal custodian,  
6 and to the juvenile, including any of the conditions specified in subs. (1d), (1g), (1m),  
7 (1t), (1v) and (1x). The order under this section shall be known as a consent decree  
8 and must be agreed to by the juvenile; the parent, guardian or legal custodian; and  
9 the person filing the petition under s. 938.25. If the consent decree includes any  
10 conditions specified in sub. (1g), the consent decree shall include provisions for  
11 payment of the services as specified in s. 938.361. The consent decree shall be  
12 reduced to writing and given to the parties.

13           **SECTION 334.** 938.32 (1d) of the statutes is amended to read:

14           938.32 (1d) If the petition alleges that the juvenile has committed an act that  
15 would constitute a misdemeanor if committed by an adult, if the chief judge of the  
16 judicial administrative district has approved under s. 973.11 (2) a volunteers in  
17 probation program established in the juvenile's county of residence and if the judge  
18 or juvenile circuit court commissioner determines that volunteer supervision under  
19 that volunteers in probation program will likely benefit the juvenile and the  
20 community, the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner may establish as a  
21 condition under sub. (1) that the juvenile be placed with that volunteers in probation  
22 program under such conditions as the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner  
23 determines are reasonable and appropriate. These conditions may include, but need  
24 not be limited to, any of the following:

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1 (a) A directive to a volunteer to provide for the juvenile a role model, informal  
2 counseling, general monitoring and monitoring of the conditions established by the  
3 judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner, or any combination of these functions.

4 (b) Any other conditions that the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner  
5 may establish under this section.

6 **SECTION 335.** 938.32 (1g) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 938.32 (1g) (intro.) If the petition alleges that the juvenile committed a  
8 violation specified under ch. 961 and if the multidisciplinary screen conducted under  
9 s. 938.24 (2) shows that the juvenile is at risk of having needs and problems related  
10 to the use of alcohol beverages, controlled substances or controlled substance analogs  
11 and its medical, personal, family and social effects, the judge or juvenile circuit court  
12 commissioner may establish as a condition under sub. (1) any of the following:

13 **SECTION 336.** 938.32 (1m) (intro.) and (a) of the statutes are amended to read:

14 938.32 (1m) (intro.) The judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner may  
15 establish as a condition under sub. (1) that the juvenile be placed in a teen court  
16 program if all of the following conditions apply:

17 (a) The chief judge of the judicial administrative district has approved a teen  
18 court program established in the juvenile's county of residence and the judge or  
19 juvenile circuit court commissioner determines that participation in the teen court  
20 program will likely benefit the juvenile and the community.

21 **SECTION 337.** 938.32 (1t) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

22 938.32 (1t) (a) 1. Subject to subd. 3., if the petition alleges that the juvenile  
23 committed a delinquent act that has resulted in damage to the property of another,  
24 or in actual physical injury to another excluding pain and suffering, the judge or  
25 juvenile circuit court commissioner may require the juvenile as a condition of the

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1 consent decree, to repair the damage to property or to make reasonable restitution  
2 for the damage or injury, either in the form of cash payments or, if the victim agrees,  
3 the performance of services for the victim, or both, if the judge or juvenile circuit court  
4 commissioner, after taking into consideration the well-being and needs of the victim,  
5 considers it beneficial to the well-being and behavior of the juvenile. Any consent  
6 decree that includes a condition of restitution by a juvenile shall include a finding  
7 that the juvenile alone is financially able to pay or physically able to perform the  
8 services, may allow up to the date of the expiration of the consent decree for the  
9 payment or for the completion of the services and may include a schedule for the  
10 performance and completion of the services. Objection by the juvenile to the amount  
11 of damages claimed shall entitle the juvenile to a hearing on the question of damages  
12 before the amount of restitution is made part of the consent decree. Any recovery  
13 under this subdivision shall be reduced by the amount recovered as restitution for  
14 the same act under subd. 1m.

15 **SECTION 338.** 938.32 (1t) (a) 1m. of the statutes is amended to read:

16 938.32 (1t) (a) 1m. If the petition alleges that the juvenile has committed a  
17 delinquent act that has resulted in damage to the property of another, or in actual  
18 physical injury to another excluding pain and suffering, the judge or juvenile circuit  
19 court commissioner may require a parent who has custody, as defined in s. 895.035  
20 (1), of the juvenile, as a condition of the consent decree, to make reasonable  
21 restitution for the damage or injury. Except for recovery for retail theft under s.  
22 943.51, the maximum amount of any restitution ordered under this subdivision for  
23 damage or injury resulting from any one act of a juvenile or from the same act  
24 committed by 2 or more juveniles in the custody of the same parent may not exceed  
25 the amount specified in s. 799.01 (1) (d). Any consent decree that includes a condition

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1 of restitution by a parent who has custody of the juvenile shall include a finding that  
2 the parent who has custody of the juvenile is financially able to pay the amount  
3 ordered and may allow up to the date of the expiration of the consent decree for the  
4 payment. Objection by the parent to the amount of damages claimed shall entitle the  
5 parent to a hearing on the question of damages before the amount of restitution is  
6 made part of the consent decree. Any recovery under this subdivision shall be  
7 reduced by the amount recovered as restitution for the same act under subd. 1.

8 **SECTION 339.** 938.32 (1t) (a) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

9 938.32 (1t) (a) 3. Under this paragraph, a judge or juvenile circuit court  
10 commissioner may not order a juvenile who is under 14 years of age to make more  
11 than \$250 in restitution or to perform more than 40 total hours of services for the  
12 victim as restitution.

13 **SECTION 340.** 938.32 (1v) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 938.32 (1v) If the petition alleges that the juvenile is in need of protection or  
15 services under s. 938.13 (6), the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner may  
16 establish as a condition under sub. (1) that the juvenile's parent, guardian or legal  
17 custodian attend school with the juvenile.

18 **SECTION 341.** 938.32 (1x) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 938.32 (1x) If the petition alleges that the juvenile violated s. 943.017 and the  
20 juvenile has attained the minimum age at which a juvenile may be adjudicated  
21 delinquent, the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner may require, as a  
22 condition of the consent decree, that the juvenile participate for not less than 10  
23 hours nor more than 100 hours in a supervised work program under s. 938.34 (5g)  
24 or perform not less than 10 hours nor more than 100 hours of other community

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1 service work, except that if the juvenile has not attained 14 years of age the  
2 maximum number of hours is 40.

3 **SECTION 342.** 938.32 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 938.32 (2) (a) A consent decree shall remain in effect for up to one year unless  
5 the juvenile, parent, guardian or legal custodian is discharged sooner by the judge  
6 or juvenile circuit court commissioner.

7 **SECTION 343.** 938.32 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

8 938.32 (6) The judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner shall inform the  
9 juvenile and the juvenile's parent, guardian or legal custodian, in writing, of the  
10 juvenile's right to object to the continuation of the consent decree under sub. (3) and  
11 of the fact that the hearing under which the juvenile was placed on supervision may  
12 be continued to conclusion as if the consent decree had never been entered.

13 **SECTION 344.** 940.203 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 940.203 (1) (b) "Judge" means a supreme court justice, court of appeals judge,  
15 circuit court judge, municipal judge, temporary or permanent reserve, judge or  
16 juvenile, probate, family or other circuit, supplemental, or municipal court  
17 commissioner.

18 **SECTION 345.** 943.013 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 943.013 (1) (b) "Judge" means a supreme court justice, court of appeals judge,  
20 circuit court judge, municipal judge, temporary or permanent reserve judge, or  
21 juvenile, probate, family or other circuit, supplemental, or municipal court  
22 commissioner.

23 **SECTION 346.** 946.495 of the statutes is amended to read:

24 **946.495 Violation of nonsecure custody order.** If a person has been placed  
25 in nonsecure custody by an intake worker under s. 938.207 or by a judge or juvenile

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1 circuit court commissioner under s. 938.21 (4) and the person is alleged to be  
2 delinquent under s. 938.12, alleged to be in need of protection or services under s.  
3 938.13 (12) or has been taken into custody for committing an act that is a violation  
4 of a state or federal criminal law, the person is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor if he  
5 or she intentionally fails to comply with the conditions of his or her placement in  
6 nonsecure custody.

7 **SECTION 347.** 967.07 of the statutes is amended to read:

8 **967.07 Court Circuit court commissioners.** A circuit court commissioner  
9 may exercise powers or perform duties specified for a judge if such action is permitted  
10 under s. 757.69.

11 **SECTION 348.** 971.20 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

12 971.20 (3) (a) In this subsection, "judge" includes a circuit court commissioner  
13 who is assigned to conduct the preliminary examination.

14 **SECTION 349.** 973.20 (13) (c) 4. of the statutes is amended to read:

15 973.20 (13) (c) 4. Refer the disputed restitution issues to a circuit court  
16 commissioner or other appropriate referee, who shall conduct a hearing on the  
17 matter and submit the record thereof, together with proposed findings of fact and  
18 conclusions of law, to the court within 60 days of the date of referral. Within 30 days  
19 after the referee's report is filed, the court shall determine the amount of restitution  
20 on the basis of the record submitted by the referee and incorporate it into the  
21 sentence or probation order imposed. The judge may direct that hearings under this  
22 subdivision be recorded either by audio recorder or by a court reporter. A transcript  
23 is not required unless ordered by the judge.

24 **SECTION 350.** 977.05 (6) (b) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:



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1           977.05 (6) (b) 2. The judge or family circuit court commissioner before whom  
2 the proceedings shall be held certifies to the state public defender that the person will  
3 not be incarcerated if he or she is found in contempt of court.

4           **SECTION 351.** 979.05 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

5           979.05 (1) An inquest shall be conducted by a circuit judge or a circuit court  
6 commissioner.

7           **SECTION 352.** 979.05 (2) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

8           979.05 (2) The inquest shall be conducted before a jury unless the district  
9 attorney, coroner, or medical examiner requests that the inquest be conducted before  
10 the judge or circuit court commissioner only. If the inquest is to be conducted before  
11 a jury, a sufficient number of names of prospective jurors shall be selected from the  
12 prospective juror list for the county in which the inquest is to be held by the clerk of  
13 circuit court in the manner provided in s. 756.06. The judge or circuit court  
14 commissioner conducting the inquest shall summon the prospective jurors to appear  
15 before the judge or circuit court commissioner at the time fixed in the summons. The  
16 summons may be served by mail, or by personal service if the judge, circuit court  
17 commissioner, or district attorney determines personal service to be appropriate.  
18 The summons shall be in the form used to summon petit jurors in the circuit courts  
19 of the county. Any person who fails to appear when summoned as an inquest juror  
20 is subject to a forfeiture of not more than \$40. The inquest jury shall consist of 6  
21 jurors. If 6 jurors do not remain from the number originally summoned after  
22 establishment of qualifications, the judge or circuit court commissioner conducting  
23 the inquest may require the clerk of the circuit court to select sufficient additional  
24 jurors' names. Those persons shall be summoned forthwith by the sheriff of the  
25 county.

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1           **SECTION 353.** 979.05 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           979.05 (3) The judge or circuit court commissioner shall examine on oath or  
3 affirmation each person who is called as a juror to discover whether the juror is  
4 related by blood, marriage or adoption to the decedent, any member of the decedent's  
5 family, the district attorney, any other attorney appearing in the case or any  
6 members of the office of the district attorney or of the office of any other attorney  
7 appearing in the case, has expressed or formed any opinion regarding the matters  
8 being inquired into in the inquest or is aware of or has any bias or prejudice  
9 concerning the matters being inquired into in the inquest. If any prospective juror  
10 is found to be not indifferent or is found to have formed an opinion which cannot be  
11 laid aside, that juror shall be excused. The judge or ~~court~~ circuit commissioner may  
12 select one or more alternate jurors if the inquest is likely to be protracted. This  
13 subsection does not limit the right of the district attorney to supplement the judge's  
14 or ~~court~~ circuit commissioner's examination of any prospective jurors as to  
15 qualifications.

16           **SECTION 354.** 979.05 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

17           979.05 (4) When 6 jurors have been selected, the judge or circuit court  
18 commissioner shall administer to them an oath or affirmation which shall be  
19 substantially in the following form:

20           You do solemnly swear (affirm) that you will diligently inquire and determine  
21 on behalf of this state when, and in what manner and by what means, the person  
22 known as .... who is now dead came to his or her death and that you will return  
23 a true verdict thereon according to your knowledge, according to the evidence  
24 presented and according to the instructions given to you by the .... (judge) (circuit  
25 court commissioner).

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1           **SECTION 355.** 979.05 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           979.05 (5) Prior to the submission of evidence to the jury, the judge or circuit  
3 court commissioner may instruct the jury on its duties and on the substantive law  
4 regarding the issues which may be inquired into before the jury. The district attorney  
5 may, at any time during the course of the inquest, make statements to the jury  
6 relating to procedural or evidentiary matters he or she and the judge or circuit court  
7 commissioner deem appropriate. Section 972.12 applies to the conduct of the inquest  
8 jury.

9           **SECTION 356.** 979.05 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

10          979.05 (6) The judge or circuit court commissioner conducting the inquest may  
11 order that proceedings be secret if the district attorney so requests or concurs.

12          **SECTION 357.** 979.06 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

13          979.06 (1) The judge or circuit court commissioner may issue subpoenas for  
14 witnesses at the request of the coroner or medical examiner and shall issue  
15 subpoenas for witnesses requested by the district attorney. Subpoenas are  
16 returnable at the time and place stated therein. Persons who are served with a  
17 subpoena may be compelled to attend proceedings in the manner provided in s.  
18 885.12.

19          **SECTION 358.** 979.06 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

20          979.06 (2) The judge or circuit court commissioner conducting the inquest and  
21 the district attorney may require by subpoena the attendance of one or more expert  
22 witnesses, including physicians, surgeons and pathologists, for the purposes of  
23 conducting an examination of the body and all relevant and material scientific and  
24 medical tests connected with the examination and testifying as to the results of the  
25 examination and tests. The expert witnesses so subpoenaed shall receive reasonable

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1 fees determined by the district attorney and the judge or circuit court commissioner  
2 conducting the inquest.

3 **SECTION 359.** 979.06 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 979.06 (3) Any witness examined at an inquest may have counsel present  
5 during the examination of that witness. The counsel may not examine or  
6 cross-examine his or her client, cross-examine or call other witnesses or argue  
7 before the judge or circuit court commissioner holding the inquest.

8 **SECTION 360.** 979.06 (4) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 979.06 (4) (intro.) The judge or circuit court commissioner shall administer an  
10 oath or affirmation to each witness which shall be substantially in the following  
11 form:

12 **SECTION 361.** 979.06 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 979.06 (5) The judge or circuit court commissioner conducting the inquest shall  
14 cause the testimony given by all witnesses to be reduced to writing or recorded and  
15 may employ stenographers to take and transcribe all of the testimony. The  
16 stenographer shall receive reimbursement at a reasonable rate for each appearance  
17 and transcription at rates in accordance with the customary charges in the area for  
18 similar services.

19 **SECTION 362.** 979.08 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 979.08 (1) When the evidence is concluded and the testimony closed, the judge  
21 or circuit court commissioner shall instruct the jury on its duties and on the  
22 substantive law regarding the issues inquired into before the jury. The district  
23 attorney shall prepare a written set of appropriate requested instructions and shall  
24 submit them to the judge or circuit court commissioner who, together with the  
25 district attorney, shall compile the final set of instructions which shall be given. The

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1 instructions shall include those criminal offenses for which the judge or circuit court  
2 commissioner believes a reasonable jury might return a verdict based upon a finding  
3 of probable cause.

4 **SECTION 363.** 979.08 (3) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 979.08 (3) (intro.) The jury shall retire to consider its verdict after hearing all  
6 of the testimony and evidence, making all necessary inquiries and having been  
7 instructed in the law. The judge or circuit court commissioner shall provide the jury  
8 with one complete set of written instructions providing the substantive law to be  
9 applied to the issues to be decided. The verdict shall be in a form which permits the  
10 following findings:

11 **SECTION 364.** 979.08 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

12 979.08 (6) Any verdict so rendered, after being validated and signed by the  
13 judge or circuit court commissioner, together with the record of the inquest, shall be  
14 delivered to the district attorney for consideration. After considering the verdict and  
15 record, the district attorney may deliver the entire inquest record or any part thereof  
16 to the coroner or medical examiner for safekeeping.

17 **SECTION 365.** 979.08 (7) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 979.08 (7) The record of a secret inquest proceeding shall not be open for  
19 inspection unless so ordered by the judge or circuit court commissioner conducting  
20 the inquest upon petition by the district attorney.

21 **SECTION 366.** 979.09 of the statutes is amended to read:

22 **979.09 Burial of body.** If any judge or circuit court commissioner conducts  
23 an inquest as to the death of a stranger or of a person whose identity is unknown or  
24 whose body is unclaimed or if the district attorney determines that no inquest into  
25 the death of such a person is necessary and the circuit judge has not ordered an

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1 inquest under s. 979.04 (2), the coroner or medical examiner shall cause the body to  
2 be decently buried or cremated and shall certify to all the charges incurred in taking  
3 any inquest by him or her and to the expenses of burial or cremation of the dead body.  
4 The charges and expenses shall be audited by the county board of the proper county  
5 and paid out of the county treasury.

6 **SECTION 367. Initial applicability.**

7 (1) This act first applies to actions commenced on the effective date of this  
8 subsection.

9 **SECTION 368. Effective date.**

10 (1) This act takes effect on the first day of the 2nd month beginning after  
11 publication.

12 (END)