DRAFTER'S NOTE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

October 13, 1999

Section 770.20 created in this bill attempts to make all of the statutes that apply to married persons, marriage and marriage documents apply in the same respect to domestic partners, domestic partnerships and declarations of domestic partnership. The fit may not be perfect in every situation, however. For example, s. 71.01 (8) defines a "married person" as "a person determined under section 7703 (a) of the internal revenue code to be married, unless the context requires otherwise." Section 7703 (a) of the IRC does not include a domestic partner; however, one could argue that "unless the context requires otherwise otherwise" allows the definition to include domestic partners because of s. 770.20.

Pamela J. Kahler Senior Legislative Attorney Phone: (608) 266–2682 E-mail: Pam.Kahler@legis.state.wi.us