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765.11 (1) If any parent, grandparent, child, or natural guardian of a minor applicant for a marriage license, any brother, sister or guardian of either of the applicants for a marriage license, either of the applicants, the district attorney or the family a circuit court commissioner believes that the statements of the application are false or insufficient, or that the applicants or either of them are incompetent to marry, that person may file with the court having probate jurisdiction in the county in which the marriage license is applied for, a petition under oath, setting forth the grounds of objection to the marriage and asking for an order requiring the parties making such application to show cause why the marriage license should not be refused. Whereupon, the court, if satisfied that the grounds of objection are prima facie valid, shall issue an order to show cause as aforesaid, returnable as the court directs, but not more than 14 days after the date of the order, which shall be served for the with upon the applicants for the marriage license residing in the state, and upon the clerk before whom the application has been made, and shall operate as a stay upon the issuance of the marriage license until further ordered; if either or both of the applicants are nonresidents of the state the order shall be served forthwith upon the nonresident by publication of a class 1 notice, under ch. 985, in the county wherein the application is pending, and by mailing a copy thereof to the nonresident at the address contained in the application.

SECTION 133. 765.11 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

765.11 (2) If, upon hearing, the court finds that the statements in the application are wilfully false or insufficient, or that either or both of said parties are not competent in law to marry, the court shall make an order refusing the marriage license, and shall immediately report such matter to the district attorney. If said falseness or insufficiency is due merely to inadvertence, then the court shall permit

the parties to amend the application so as to make the statements therein true and
sufficient, and upon application being so amended, the marriage license shall be
issued. If any party is unable to supply any of the information required in the
application, the court may, if satisfied that such inability is not due to wilfulness or
negligence, order the marriage license to be issued notwithstanding such
insufficiency. The costs and disbursements of the proceedings under this section
shall rest in the discretion of the court, but none shall be taxed against any district
attorney or family circuit court commissioner acting in good faith.

**SECTION 134.** 765.16 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 135. 767.045 (1) (c) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 136. 767.081 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 137. 767.081 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.081 (1) Upon the filing of an action affecting the family, the office of family court commissioner shall inform the parties of any services, including referral

office of

services, offered by the <u>office of family court commissioner</u> and by the director of family court counseling services under s. 767.11.

SECTION 138. 767.081 (2) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 139. 767.0% 1 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

**SECTION 140.** 767.083 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 141. 767.085 (1) (i) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 142. 767.085 (1) (j) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

# SECTION 143. 767.085 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

# SECTION 144. 767.087 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

# Section 145. 767.087 (1) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.087 (1) (c) Unless the action is one under s. 767.02 (1) (g) or (h), without the consent of the other party or an order of the court or family a circuit court commissioner, establishing a residence with a minor child of the parties outside the state or more than 150 miles from the residence of the other party within the state,

1	removing a minor child of the parties from the state for more than 90 consecutive
2	days or concealing a minor child of the parties from the other party.
3	SECTION 146. 767.087 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:
4	767.087 (2) The prohibitions under sub. (1) shall apply until the action is
5	dismissed, until a final judgment in the action is entered or until the court or family
6	a circuit court commissioner orders otherwise.
7	SECTION 147. 767.11 (1) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:
(8)	767.11 (1) (c) A county or counties may designate a the supervisor of the office
9	of family court commissioner as the director under par. (a) or (b).
10	SECTION 148. 767.11 (5) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:
11	767.11 (5) (a) In any action affecting the family, including a revision of
12	judgment or order under s. 767.32 or 767.325, in which it appears that legal custody
13	or physical placement is contested, the court or family circuit court commissioner
14	shall refer the parties to the director of family court counseling services for possible
15	mediation of those contested issues. The court or the family circuit court
16	commissioner shall inform the parties that the confidentiality of communications in
17	mediation is waived if the parties stipulate under sub. (14) (c) that the person who
18	provided mediation to the parties may also conduct the legal custody or physical
19	placement study under sub. (14).
20	SECTION 149. 767.11 (5) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:
21	767.11 (5) (b) If both parties to any action affecting the family wish to have joint
22	legal custody of a child, either party may request that the court or family circuit court
23	commissioner to refer the parties to the director of family court counseling services
24	for assistance in resolving any problem relating to joint legal custody and physical
25	placement of the child. Upon request, the court shall so refer the parties.

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**SECTION 150.** 767.11 (5) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.11 (5) (c) A person who is awarded periods of physical placement, a child of such a person, a person with visitation rights or a person with physical custody of a child may notify the family a circuit court commissioner of any problem he or she has relating to any of these matters. Upon notification, the family circuit court commissioner may refer any person involved in the matter to the director of family court counseling services for assistance in resolving the problem.

**SECTION 151.** 767.11 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.11 (6) Action upon referral. Whenever a court or family circuit court commissioner refers a party to the director of family court counseling services for possible mediation, the director shall assign a mediator to the case. The mediator shall provide mediation if he or she determines it is appropriate. If the mediator determines mediation is not appropriate, he or she shall so notify the court. Whenever a court or family circuit court commissioner refers a party to the director of family court counseling services for any other family court counseling service, the director shall take appropriate action to provide the service.

Section 152. 767.11 (7) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

**SECTION 153.** 767.11 (13) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

**SECTION 154.** 767.115 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

**SECTION 155.** 767.115 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

Section 156. 767.115 (1m) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.115 (1m) A program under sub. (1) shall be educational rather than therapeutic in nature and may not exceed a total of 4 hours in length. The parties shall be responsible for the cost, if any, of attendance at the program. The court or family circuit court commissioner may specifically assign responsibility for payment

of any cost. No facts or information obtained in the course of the program, and no report resulting from the program, is admissible in any action or proceeding.

**SECTION 157.** 767.115 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.115 (2) Notwithstanding s. 767.07, the court or family circuit court commissioner may require the parties to attend a program under sub. (1) as a condition to the granting of a final judgment or order in the action affecting the family that is pending before the court or family circuit court commissioner.

SECTION 158. 767.12 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 159. 767.125 of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 160. 767.13 (title) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 161. 767.13 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 757.68 (2m) (a) and amended to read:

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

2. 'Powers; civil service; oath; temporary appointment; assistants.' The family court commissioner, by virtue of the office and to the extent required for the performance of the duties, has the powers of a court commissioner. The circuit court commissioner appointed to supervise the office of family court commissioner is in addition to the maximum number of circuit court commissioners permitted by s. 757.68 (1). The circuit court commissioner supervising the office of the family court commissioner, or any assistant circuit court commissioner assisting in family matters, may be placed under a county civil service system by resolution of the county board. Before entering upon the discharge of the duties the family court commissioner shall take and file the official oath. The person appointed shall continue to act until a successor is appointed and qualified, except that in the event of disability or extended absence the judges may appoint another reputable attorney to act as temporary family court commissioner. The county board may provide that one or more assistant family court commissioners shall be appointed by the circuit judges for the county, subject to the approval of the chief judge of the judicial administrative district. An assistant family court commissioner shall have the same qualifications as the commissioner and shall take and file the official oath.

SECTION 162. 767.13 (2) (title) of the statutes is repealed.

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SECTION 163.	767.13 (2) (a) of the statutes is renumbered 757.68 (2m) (b) an	d
amended to read:		

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

**SECTION 164.** 767.13 (2) (b), (3) and (4) of the statutes are repealed.

SECTION 165. 767.13 (5) (title) and (a) (title) of the statutes are repealed.

SECTION 166. 767.13 (5) (a) of the statutes is renumbered 757.69 (1) (p) and amended to read:

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

1. M clucuit commissioner may preside at any hearing held to determine judgment of divorce shall be granted, if both parties state that the marriage is irretrievably broken and that all material issues, including but not limited to division of property or estate, legal custody, physical placement, child support, spousal maintenance and family support, are resolved or if one party does not participate in the action for divorce. The family A circuit court commissioner may grant and enter judgment in any action over which he or she presides under this paragraph subdivision unless the judgment modifies an agreement between the

1	parties on material issues. If the family circuit court commissioner does not approve
2	an agreement between the parties on material issues, the action shall be certified to
3	the court for trial.
4	SECTION 167. 767.13 (5) (b) (title) of the statutes is repealed.
5	SECTION 168. 767.13 (5) (b) of the statutes is renumbered 757.69 (1) (p) 2. and
6	amended to read:
7	757.69 (1) (p) 2. On authority delegated by a judge, which may be by a standard
8	order, a family Moirous court commissioner may conduct hearings and enter
9	judgments in actions for enforcement of, or revision of judgment for, maintenance,
10	custody, physical placement or visitation.
11	SECTION 169. 767.13 (5) (c) (title) of the statutes is repealed.
12	<b>SECTION 170.</b> 767.13 (5) (c) of the statutes is renumbered 757.69 (1) (p) 3. and
13 Y	amended to read:  Lps: move 3 words & strike.
) 14	£hℓm 757.69 (1) (p) 3. Except when <del>otherwise ordered by a judge, a family prohibited</del>
15	by the chief judge of the judicial administrative district, Armit court commissioner
16	may fonduc hearings and enter orders and judgments in actions to establish
17	paternity, in actions to establish or enforce a child support or a family support
18	obligation and in actions to revise orders or judgments for child support or family
19	support.
20	SECTION 171. 767.13 (6) of the statutes is repealed.
21	SECTION 172. 767.13 (7) (title) of the statutes is repealed.
22	SECTION 173. 767.13 (7) of the statutes is renumbered 757.69 (124) and
23	amended to read:

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757.69 Each family A circuit court commissioner shall cooperate with the county and the department to ensure that all dependent children receive reasonable and necessary child support.

**SECTION 174.** 767.14 of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 175. 767.145 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 176. 767.15 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.15 (1) In any action affecting the family in which either party is a recipient of benefits under ss. 49.141 to 49.161 or aid under s. 46.261, 49.19 or 49.45, each party shall, either within 20 days after making service on the opposite party of any motion or pleading requesting the court or family circuit court commissioner to order, or to modify a previous order, relating to child support, maintenance or family support, or

before filing the motion or pleading in court, serve a copy of the motion or pleading upon the county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) of the county in which the action is begun.

**Section 177.** 767.16 of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 178. 767.17 of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 179. 767.23 (1) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 180. 767.23 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.23 (1) (a) Upon request of one party, granting legal custody of the minor children to the parties jointly, to one party solely or to a relative or agency specified under s. 767.24 (3). The court or family circuit court commissioner may order joint legal custody without the agreement of the other party and without the findings

required under s. 767.24 (2) (b) 2. This order may not have a binding effect on a final custody determination.

**SECTION 181.** 767.23 (1) (am) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.23 (1) (am) Upon the request of a party, granting periods of physical placement to a party. The court or family circuit court commissioner shall make a determination under this paragraph within 30 days after the request for a temporary order-regarding periods of physical placement is filed.

SECTION 182. 767.23 (1m) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 183. 767.23 (1n) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.23 (1n) Before making any temporary order under sub. (1), the court or family circuit court commissioner shall consider those factors which the court is required by this chapter to consider before entering a final judgment on the same subject matter. If the court or family circuit court commissioner makes a temporary child support order that deviates from the amount of support that would be required by using the percentage standard established by the department under s. 49.22 (9), the court or family circuit court commissioner shall comply with the requirements of s. 767.25 (1n). A temporary order under sub. (1) may be based upon the written stipulation of the parties, subject to the approval of the court or the family circuit

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court commissioner. Temporary orders made by the family a circuit court commissioner may be reviewed by the court as provided in s. 767.13 (6).

**SECTION 184.** 767.25 (4m) (f) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 185. 767.265 (1) of the statutes affected by 1997 Wisconsin Act 191,

section 411 is amended to read:

767.265 (1) Each order for child support under this chapter, for maintenance payments under s. 767.23 or 767.26, for family support under this chapter, for costs ordered under s. 767.51 (3) or 767.62 (4) (a), for support by a spouse under s. 767.02 (1) (f) or for maintenance payments under s. 767.02 (1) (g), each order for a revision in a judgment or order with respect to child support, maintenance or family support payments under s. 767.32, each stipulation approved by the court or the family a circuit court commissioner for child support under this chapter and each order for child or spousal support entered under s. 948.22 (7) constitutes an assignment of all commissions, earnings, salaries, wages, pension benefits, benefits under ch. 102 or 108, lottery prizes that are payable in instalments and other money due or to be due

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

**SECTION 186.** 767.265 (2h) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.265 (2h) If a court-ordered assignment does not require immediately effective withholding and à payer fails to make a required maintenance, child support, spousal support or family support payment within 10 days after its due date, within 20 days after the payment's due date the court or family circuit court commissioner shall cause the assignment to go into effect by providing notice of the assignment in the manner provided under sub. (2r) and shall send a notice by regular mail to the last-known address of the payer. The notice sent to the payer shall inform the payer that an assignment is in effect and that the payer may, within a 10-day period, by motion request a hearing on the issue of whether the assignment should remain in effect. The court or family circuit court commissioner shall hold a hearing  $requested\ under\ this\ subsection\ within\ 10\ working\ days\ after\ the\ date\ of\ the\ request.$ If at the hearing the payer establishes that the assignment is not proper because of a mistake of fact, the court or family circuit court commissioner may direct that the assignment be withdrawn. Either party may, within 15 working days after the date of a decision by a family circuit court commissioner under this subsection, seek review of the decision by the court with jurisdiction over the action.

SECTION 187. 767.265 (2r) of the statutes, as affected by 1997 Wisconsin Act 191, section 414, is amended to read:

support or support by a spouse and upon approval of each stipulation for child support, unless the court finds that income withholding is likely to cause the payer irreparable harm or unless s. 767.267 applies, the court, family circuit court commissioner or county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) shall provide notice of the assignment by regular mail or by facsimile machine, as defined in s. 134.72 (1) (a), or other electronic means to the last–known address of the person from whom the payer receives or will receive money. The notice shall provide that the amount withheld may not exceed the maximum amount that is subject to garnishment under 15 USC 1673 (b) (2). If the department or its designee, whichever is appropriate, does not receive the money from the person notified, the court, family circuit court commissioner or county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) shall provide notice of the assignment to any other person from whom the payer receives or will receive money. Notice under this subsection may be a notice of the court, a copy of the executed assignment or a copy of that part of the court order directing payment.

SECTION 188. 767.267 (1) of the statutes, as affected by 1997 Wisconsin Act 27, is amended to read:

767.267 (1) If the court or the family circuit court commissioner determines that income withholding under s. 767.265 is inapplicable, ineffective or insufficient to ensure payment under an order or stipulation specified in s. 767.265 (1), or that income withholding under s. 767.25 (4m) (c) or 767.51 (3m) (c) is inapplicable, ineffective or insufficient to ensure payment of a child's health care expenses, including payment of health insurance premiums, ordered under s. 767.25 (4m) or 767.51 (3m), the court or family circuit court commissioner may require the payer to identify or establish a deposit account, owned in whole or in part by the payer, that

allows for periodic transfers of funds and to file with the financial institution at which the account is located an authorization for transfer from the account to the department or its designed whichever is appropriate. The authorization shall be provided on a standard form approved by the court and shall specify the frequency and the amount of transfer, sufficient to meet the payer's obligation under the order or stipulation, as required by the court or family circuit court commissioner. The authorization shall include the payer's consent for the financial institution or an officer, employe or agent of the financial institution to disclose information to the court, family circuit court commissioner, county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5), department or department's designee regarding the account for which the payer has executed the authorization for transfer.

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SECTION 189. 767.267 (5) of the statutes as affected by 1997 Wisconsin Act 274, is amended to read:

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

**SECTION 190.** 767.27 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 191. 767.29 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 192. 767.29 (1) (c) of the statutes affected by 1997 Wisconsin Act

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

SECTION 193. 767.29(1)(d)(intro.) of the statutes as created by 1997 Wisconsin

Act 2 is amended to read:

767.29 (1) (d) (intro.) For receiving and disbursing maintenance, child support or family support payments, and for maintaining the records required under par. (c), the department or its designee shall collect ar annual fee of \$25 to be paid by each party ordered to make payments. The court or family circuit court commissioner shall order each party ordered to make payments to pay the annual fee under this paragraph at the time of, and in addition to, the first payment to the department or its designee in each year for which payments are ordered. All fees collected under this paragraph shall be deposited in the appropriation account under s. 20:445 (3) (ja). At the time of ordering the payment of an annual fee under this paragraph, the

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<u>court or <del>family</del> circuit</u> court commissioner shall notify each party ordered to make
payments of the requirement to pay the annual fee and of the amount of the annual
fee. If the annual fee under this section is not paid when due, the department or its
designee may not deduct the annual fee from the maintenance or child or family
support payment, but may do any of the following:

SECTION 194. 767.29 (1) (d) 2. of the statutes, as created by 1997 Wisconsin Act
27, is amended to read:

767.29 (1) (d) 2. Apply to the court or family a circuit court commissioner for an assignment relating to the annual fee in accordance with s. 767.265.

SECTION 195. 767.29 (1) (e) of the statutes profifered by 1997 Wisconsin Act

My is amended to read:

767.29 (1) (e) If the maintenance, child support or family support payments adjudged or ordered to be paid are not paid to the department or its designee at the time provided in the judgment or order, the county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) or the family a circuit court commissioner of the county shall take such proceedings as he or she considers advisable to secure the payment of the sum including enforcement by contempt proceedings under ch. 785 or by other means. Copies of any order issued to compel the payment shall be mailed to counsel who represented each party when the maintenance, child support or family support payments were awarded. In case any fees of officers in any of the proceedings, including the compensation of the family circuit court commissioner at the rate of \$50 per day unless the commissioner is on a salaried basis, is not collected from the person proceeded against, the fees shall be paid out of the county treasury upon the order of the presiding judge and the certificate of the department.

SECTION 196. 767.29 (1m) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 197. 767.29 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 198. 767.29 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 199. 767.293 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

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767.293 (1) If an order for child support under this chapter or s. 948.22 (7), an order for family support under this chapter or a stipulation approved by the court or the family circuit court commissioner for child support under this chapter requires a payer to pay child or family support in an amount that is expressed as a percentage of parental income, the payee, including the state or a county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) if the state is a real party in interest under s. 767.075 (1), may establish an arrearage by filing an affidavit in the action in which the order for the payment of support was entered or the stipulation for support was approved. The affidavit shall state the amount of the arrearage and the facts supporting a reasonable basis on which the arrearage was determined and may state the payer's current income and the facts supporting a reasonable basis on which the payer's current income was determined. Not later than 60 days after filing the affidavit, the payee shall serve the affidavit on the payer in the manner provided in s. 801.11 (1) (a) or (b) or by sending the affidavit by registered or certified mail to the last-known address of the payer. After the payee files a proof of service on the payer, the court shall send a notice to the payer by regular, registered or certified mail to the payer's last-known address. The notice shall provide that, unless the payer requests a hearing to dispute the arrearage or the amount of the arrearage not later than 20 days after the date of the notice, the court or family circuit court commissioner may enter an order against the payer in the amount stated in the affidavit and may provide notice of assignment under s. 767.265. The notice shall include the mailing address to which the request for hearing must be mailed or delivered in order to schedule a hearing under sub. (2).

SECTION 200. 767.293 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

**SECTION 201.** 767.293 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

Section 202. 767.32 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.32 (1) (a) After a judgment or order providing for child support under this chapter or s. 48.355 (2) (b) 4., 48.357 (5m), 48.363 (2), 938.183 (4), 938.355 (2) (b) 4., 938.357 (5m), 938.363 (2) or 948.22 (7), maintenance payments under s. 767.26 or family support payments under this chapter, or for the appointment of trustees under s. 767.31, the court may, from time to time, on the petition, motion or order to show cause of either of the parties, or upon the petition, motion or order to show cause

of the department, a county department under s. 46.215, 46.22 or 46.23 or a county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) if an assignment has been made under s. 46.261, 48.57 (3m) (b) 2. or (3n) (b) 2., 49.19 (4) (h) or 49.45 (19) or if either party or their minor children receive aid under s. 48.57 (3m) or (3n) or ch. 49, and upon notice to the office of family court commissioner, revise and alter such judgment or order respecting the amount of such maintenance or child support and the payment thereof, and also respecting the appropriation and payment of the principal and income of the property so held in trust, and may make any judgment or order respecting any of the matters that such court might have made in the original action, except that a judgment or order that waives maintenance payments for either party shall not thereafter be revised or altered in that respect nor shall the provisions of a judgment or order with respect to final division of property be subject to revision or modification. A revision, under this section, of a judgment or order with respect to an amount of child or family support may be made only upon a finding of a substantial change in circumstances. In any action under this section to revise a judgment or order with respect to maintenance payments, a substantial change in the cost of living by either party or as measured by the federal bureau of labor statistics máy be sufficient to justify a revision of judgment or order with respect to the amount of maintenance, except that a change in an obligor's cost of living is not in itself sufficient if payments are expressed as a percentage of income.

SECTION 203. 767.327 (2) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.327 (2) (c) Upon receipt of a copy of a notice of objection under par. (a), the court or family circuit court commissioner shall promptly refer the parents for mediation or other family court counseling services under s. 767.11 and may appoint a guardian ad litem. Unless the parents agree to extend the time period, if mediation

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or counseling services do not resolve the dispute within 30 days after referral, the matter shall proceed under subs. (3) to (5).

**Section 204.** 767.33 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.33 (2) An adjustment under sub. (1) may be made only if the party receiving payments applies to the family a circuit court commissioner for the adjustment. If the order specifies the date on which the annual adjustment becomes effective, the application to the family circuit court commissioner must be made at least 20 days before the effective date of the adjustment. The family circuit court commissioner, upon application by the party receiving payments, shall send a notice by certified mail to the last-known address of the obligor. The notice shall be postmarked no later than 10 days after the date on which the application was filed and shall inform the obligor that an adjustment in payments will become effective on the date specified in the order or, if no date is specified in the order, 10 days after the date on which the notice is sent. The obligor may, after receipt of notice and before the effective date of the adjustment, request a hearing on the issue of whether the adjustment should take effect, in which case the adjustment shall be held in abeyance pending the outcome of the hearing. The family circuit court commissioner shall hold a hearing requested under this subsection within 10 working days after If at the hearing the obligor establishes that extraordinary the request. circumstances beyond his or her control prevent fulfillment of the adjusted child support obligation, the family circuit court commissioner may direct that all or part of the adjustment not take effect until the obligor is able to fulfill the adjusted obligation. If at the hearing the obligor does not establish that extraordinary circumstances beyond his or her control prevent fulfillment of the adjusted obligation, the adjustment shall take effect as of the date it would have become

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effective had no hearing been requested. Either party may, within 15 working days of the date of the decision by the family circuit court commissioner under this subsection, seek review of the decision by the court with jurisdiction over the action.

Section 205. 767.37 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.37 (1) (a) In any action affecting the family, if the court orders maintenance payments or other allowances for a party or children or retains jurisdiction in such matters, the written judgment shall include a provision that disobedience of the court order with respect to the same is punishable under ch. 785 by commitment to the county jail or house of correction until such judgment is complied with and the costs and expenses of the proceedings are paid or until the party committed is otherwise discharged, according to law. The written judgment in any action affecting the family shall include the social security numbers of the parties and of any child of the parties. The findings of fact and conclusions of law and the written judgment shall be drafted by the attorney for the moving party, and shall be submitted to the court and filed with the clerk of the court within 30 days after judgment is granted; but if the respondent has been represented by counsel, the findings, conclusions and judgment shall first be submitted to respondent's counsel for approval and if the family circuit court commissioner has appeared at the trial of the action, such papers shall also be sent to the family circuit court commissioner for approval. After any necessary approvals are obtained, the findings of fact, conclusions of law and judgment shall be submitted to the court. Final stipulations of the parties may be appended to the judgment and incorporated by reference therein.

SECTION 206. 767.37 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.37 (2) So far as a judgment of divorce affects the marital status of the parties the court has the power to vacate or modify the judgment for sufficient cause

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shown, upon its own motion, or upon the application of both parties to the action, at any time within 6 months from the granting of such judgment. No such judgment shall be vacated or modified without service of notice of motion on the office of family court commissioner. The court may direct the family a circuit court commissioner or appoint some other attorney, to bring appropriate proceedings for the vacation of the judgment. The compensation of the family circuit court commissioner when not on a salaried basis or other attorney for performing such services shall be at the rate of \$50 per day, which shall be paid out of the county treasury upon order of the presiding judge and the certificate of the clerk of the court. If the judgment is vacated it shall restore the parties to the marital relation that existed before the granting of such judgment. If after vacation of the judgment either of the parties brings an action in this state for divorce against the other the court may order the petitioner in such action to reimburse the county the amount paid by it to the family circuit court commissioner or other attorney in connection with such vacation proceedings. Whenever a judgment of divorce is set aside under this subsection, the court shall order the record in the action impounded without regard to s. 767.19; and thereafter neither the record nor any part of the record shall be offered or admitted into evidence in any action or proceeding except by special order of the court of jurisdiction upon good cause shown in any paternity proceedings under this chapter or by special order of any court of record upon a showing of necessity to clear title to real estate.

**SECTION 207.** 767.45 (5) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.45 (5) (b) An action under this section may be joined with any other action for child support and shall be governed by the procedures specified in s. 767.05 relating to child support, except that the title of the action shall be "In re the paternity of A.B." The petition shall state the name and date of birth of the child if

1	born or that the mother is pr	egnant if the child is unborn, the n	ame of any alleged
2	father, whether or not an act	ion by any of the parties to determi	ne the paternity of
3	the child or rebut the presur	nption of paternity to the child has	s at any time been
4	commenced, or is pending befo	ore any judge or <u>circuit</u> court commis	sioner, in this state
5	or elsewhere. If a paternity ju	ndgment has been rendered, or if a p	aternity action has
6	been dismissed, the petition	shall state the court which rendere	ed the judgment or
7	dismissed the action, and the	date and the place the judgment wa	s granted if known.
8	The petition shall also give n	otice of a party's right to request a	genetic test under
9	s. 49.225 or 767.48.	(form)	
10	<b>Section 208.</b> 767.455 (	5) of the statutes is amended to rea	nd Keep
11	767.455 (5) (FORM. The	summons shall be in substantially	the following form:
12	STATE OF WISCONSIN,	CIRCUIT CO	URT:COUNTY
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14	In re the Paternity of A. B.		
15	STATE OF WISCONSIN		
16	and		
17	C. D.		
18	Address		
19	City, State Zip Code		File No
20	, Petitioners		
21	vs.		SUMMONS
22	E. F.		
23	$\operatorname{Address}$	(Case Classification Type):	(Code No.)
24	City, State Zip Code		
25	, Respondent		

	THE STATE OF WISCONSIN, To the Respondent:
	You have been sued claims that you are the father of the child, born on
	(date), in (city) (county) (state). You must appear to answer this claim of
	paternity. Your court appearance is:
	Date:
	Time:
	Room:
	Judge or <del>Family</del> <u>Circuit</u> Court Commissioner:
	Address:
	If you do not appear, the court will enter a default judgment finding you to be
	the father. A default judgment will take effect 30 days after it is served on or mailed
	to you, unless within those 30 days you present to the court evidence of good cause
	for failure to appear. If you plan to be represented by an attorney, you should contact
	the attorney prior to the court appearance listed above. If you are unable to afford
	an attorney, the court will appoint one for you only upon the blood tests showing that
	you are not excluded as the father and the probability of your being the father is less
	than 99.0%. Appearance is not required if you complete the attached waiver of first
	appearance statement and send it to the court at least 10 days prior to the date of
	your scheduled appearance in this summons.
	Dated:, (year)
	Signed:
	G. H., Çlerk of Circuit Court
	or or
1	Petitioner's Attorney

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1 State Bar No.: ....

2 Address: ....

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3 City, State Zip Code: ....

Phone No.: ....

**SECTION 209.** 767.458 (1m) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

**SECTION 210.** 767.46 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.46 (1) A pretrial hearing shall be held before the court or a circuit or supplemental court commissioner under s. 757.69 (3) 757.675 (2) (g). A record or minutes of the proceeding shall be kept. At the pretrial hearing the parties may present and cross—examine witnesses, request genetic tests and present other evidence relevant to the determination of paternity.

SECTION 211. 767.463 of the statutes is amended to read:

767.463 Dismissal if adjudication not in child's best interest. Except as provided in s. 767.458 (1m), at any time in an action to establish the paternity of a child, upon the motion of a party or guardian ad litem, the court or circuit or supplemental court commissioner under s. 757.69 (3) 757.675 (2) (g) may, with respect to a man, refuse to order genetic tests, if genetic tests have not yet been taken,

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and dismiss the action if the court or <u>circuit or supplemental</u> court commissioner determines that a judicial determination of whether the man is the father of the child is not in the best interest of the child.

Section 212. 767.465 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

father and fails to appear at the first appearance, unless the first appearance is not required under s. 767.457 (2), scheduled court-ordered genetic test, pretrial hearing or trial, the court shall enter an order adjudicating the respondent to be the father and appropriate orders for support, legal custody and physical placement. The orders shall be either served on the respondent or mailed by regular, registered or certified mail, to the last-known address of the respondent. The orders shall take effect 30 days after service or 30 days after the date on which the orders were mailed unless, within that time, the respondent presents to the court or a circuit or supplemental court commissioner under s. 757.69 (3) (g) 757.675 (2) (g) evidence of good cause for failure to appear or failure to have undergone a court-ordered genetic test.

SECTION 213. 767.51 (3m) (f) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

767.51 (3m) (f) 2. The notice provided to the parent shall inform the parent that coverage for the child under the new employer's health benefit plan will be in effect upon the employer's receipt of the notice. The notice shall inform the parent that he or she may, within 10 business days after receiving the notice, by motion request a hearing before the court on the issue of whether the order to provide coverage of the child's health care expenses should remain in effect. A motion under this subdivision may be heard by a family circuit court commissioner. If the parent requests a hearing and the court or family circuit court commissioner determines that the order to

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provide coverage of the child's health-care expenses should not remain in effect, the court shall provide notice to the employer that the order is no longer in effect.

SECTION 214. 767.62 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

**SECTION 215.** 767.62 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 216. 767.62 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

767:62 (4) (a) In an action under sub. (3) (a), if the persons who signed and filed the statement acknowledging paternity as parents of the child had notice of the hearing, the court or family a circuit court commissioner may make an order that contains any provision directed against the appropriate party to the proceeding concerning the duty of support, the legal custody or guardianship of the child, periods of physical placement, the furnishing of bond or other security for the payment of amounts under the order or any other matter in the best interest of the child. Unless the court orders otherwise, if there is no presumption of paternity under s. 891.41 (1) the mother shall have sole legal custody of the child. The court or family circuit court commissioner shall order either party or both to pay for the support of any child of the parties who is less than

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19 years old if the child is pursuing an accredited course of instruction leading to the acquisition of a high school diploma or its equivalent. The order may direct the father to pay or contribute to the reasonable expenses of the mother's pregnancy and confinement during pregnancy and may direct either party to pay or contribute to the costs of attorney fees or other costs.

SECTION 217, 767.62 (4) (b) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (b) 2. In addition to ordering child support for a child under par. (a), the court or family circuit court commissioner shall specifically assign responsibility for and direct the manner of payment of the child's health care expenses. In assigning responsibility for a child's health care expenses, the court or family circuit court commissioner shall consider whether a child is covered under a parent's health insurance policy or plan at the time the court enters an order under this paragraph, the availability of health insurance to each parent through an employer or other organization, the extent of coverage available to a child and the costs to the parent for the coverage of the child. A parent may be required to initiate or continue health care insurance coverage for a child under this subdivision. If a parent is required to do so, he or she shall provide copies of necessary program or policy identification to the other parent and is liable for any health care costs for which he or she receives direct payment from an insurer. This paragraph may not be construed to limit the authority of the court or family circuit court commissioner to enter or modify support orders containing provisions for payment of medical expenses, medical costs, or insurance/premiums that are in addition to and not inconsistent with this paragraph.

SECTION 218. 767.62 (4) (b) 3. a. of the statutes, as affected by 1997 Wisconsin ct 191, section 489, is amended to read:

expenses, the court or family circuit court commissioner may order that payment, including payment for health insurance premiums, be withheld from income and sent to the appropriate health care insurer, provider or plan, as provided an s. 767.265 (3h), or sent to the department or its designee, whichever is appropriate, for disbursement to the person for whom the payment has been awarded if that person is not a health care insurer, provider or plan. If the court or family circuit court commissioner orders income withholding and assignment for the payment of health care expenses, the court or family circuit court commissioner shall send notice of assignment in the manner provided under s. 767.265 (2r) and may include that notice of assignment with a notice of assignment under s. 767.265. The department or its designee, whichever is appropriate, shall keep a record of all moneys received and disbursed by the department or its designee for health care expenses that are directed to be paid to the department or its designee.

SECTION 219. 767.62 (4) (b) 3. b. of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (b) 3. b. If the court or family circuit court commissioner orders a parent to initiate or continue health insurance coverage for a child under a health insurance policy that is available to the parent through an employer or other organization but the court or family circuit court commissioner does not specify the manner in which payment of the health insurance premiums shall be made, the clerk of court may provide notice of assignment in the manner provided under s. 767.265 (2r) for the withholding from income of the amount necessary to pay the health insurance premiums. That notice of assignment may be sent with or included as part of any other notice of assignment under s. 767.265, if appropriate. A person who receives the notice of assignment shall send the withheld health insurance

premiums to the appropriate health care insurer, provider or plan, as provided in start (3h).

Section 220. 767.62 (4) (b) 4. (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (b) 4. (intro.) If the court or family circuit court commissioner orders a parent to provide coverage of the health care expenses of the parent's child and the parent is eligible for family coverage of health care expenses under a health benefit plan that is provided by an employer on an insured or on a self-insured basis, the employer shall do all of the following:

SECTION 221. 767.62(4)(b) 4. c. of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (b) 4. c. After the child has coverage under the employer's health benefit plan, and as long as the parent is eligible for family coverage under the employer's health benefit plan, continue to provide coverage for the child unless the employer receives satisfactory written evidence that the order of the court or family circuit court commissioner is no longer in effect or that the child has coverage of health care expenses under another health insurance policy or health benefit plan that provides comparable coverage of health care expenses.

SECTION 222. 767.62 (4) (b) 5. a. of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (b) 5. a. If a parent who has been ordered by a court or family circuit court commissioner to provide coverage of the health care expenses of a child who is eligible for medical assistance under subch. IV of ch. 49 receives payment from a 3rd party for the cost of services provided to the child but does not pay the health care provider for the services or reimburse the department or any other person who paid for the services on behalf of the child, the department may obtain a judgment against the parent for the amount of the 3rd party payment.

Section 223. 767.62 (4) (b) 6. b. of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 224. 767.62 (4) (d) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (d) 1. Except as provided in par. (e), the court or family <u>circuit</u> court commissioner shall determine child support payments under par. (a) by using the percentage standard established by the department under s. 49.22 (9).

SECTION 225. 767.62 (4) (d) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (d) 2. In determining child support payments under par. (a), the court or family circuit court commissioner may consider all relevant financial information or other information relevant to the parent's earning capacity, including information reported under s. 49.22 (2m) to the department or the county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5).

SECTION 226. 767.62 (4) (e) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (e) (intro.) Upon request by a party, the court or family circuit court commissioner may modify the amount of child support payments determined under par. (d) if, after considering the following factors, the court or family circuit court

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commissioner finds by the greater weight of the credible evidence that use of the percentage standard is unfair to the child or to the requesting party:

SECTION 227. 767.62 (4) (e) 14. of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (e) 14. Any other factors that the court or family circuit court commissioner in each case determines are relevant to the best interests of the child.

SECTION 228. 767.62 (4) (f) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (f) If the court or family circuit court commissioner finds under par (e) that use of the percentage standard is unfair to the child or the requesting party, the court or family circuit court commissioner shall state in writing or on the record the amount of support that would be required by using the percentage standard, the amount by which the court's or family circuit court commissioner's order deviates from that amount, the reasons for finding that use of the percentage standard is unfair to the child or the party, the reasons for the amount of the modification and the basis for the modification.

SECTION 229. 769.102 of the statutes is amended to read:

769.102 Tribunal of this state. The courts and <u>circuit and supplemental</u> court commissioners are the tribunal of this state.

SECTION 230. 769.302 of the statutes is amended to read:

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

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minor parent within this state who maintains such a proceeding or for a minor within this state who is alleged to be a parent, as provided in s. 767.475 (1).

**SECTION 231.** 782.01 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

the supreme court, the court of appeals and circuit courts and each justice and judge thereof and circuit and supplemental court commissioners; and prisoner includes every person restrained of personal liberty; and imprisoned includes every such restraint, and respondent means the person on whom the writ is to be served.

**Section 232.** 782.03 of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 233. 782.28 of the statutes is amended to read:

782.28 Transfer from <u>circuit</u> court commissioner. If the writ is returnable before a <u>circuit</u> court commissioner, either party may make a request for transfer to the court in which the matter is filed. Upon receipt of such request the

1	circuit court commissioner shall forthwith transmit all papers and records in the
2	proceedings to the court.
,3	SECTION 234. 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 235. 799.05 (7) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:
7	799.05 (7) FORM; CIRCUIT COURT COMMISSIONER. (intro.) Except as
8	provided in s. 799.22 (4) (b) 3., in counties establishing at least one part-time or
9	full-time court commissioner position under s. 757.68 (1) (b) in which a circuit court
10	commissioner is assigned to assist in small claims matters, the summons shall be
11	substantially in the following form:
12	SECTION 236. 799.06 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:
13	$\sqrt{799.06}$ (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 <u>circuit</u> court
15	commissioner may require written pleadings in a particular case.
16	SECTION 237. 799.11 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:
17	$\sqrt{799.11}$ (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 238. 799.20 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

$\checkmark$ 799.20 (4) Inquiry of defendant who appears on return date. If the defendant
appears on the return date of the summons or any adjourned date thereof, the court
or circuit court commissioner shall make sufficient inquiry of the defendant to
determine whether the defendant claims a defense to the action. If it appears to the
court or circuit court commissioner that the defendant claims a defense to the action,
the court or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner shall schedule a trial of all the issues involved
in the action, unless the parties stipulate otherwise or the action is subject to
immediate dismissal.

SECTION 239. 799.206 (1), (2) and (4) of the statutes are amended to read:

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

- (2) Judgment on failure to appear may be entered by the <u>circuit</u> court commissioner or the clerk upon the return date as provided in s. 799.22.
- (4) Except as provided in sub. (3), the <u>circuit</u> court commissioner shall hear all matters using the procedures set forth in s. 799.207.

SECTION 240. 799.207 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

799.207 (title) Proceedings before circuit court commissioner.

SECTION 241. 799.207 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 242. 799.207 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:
799.207 (1) (b) Except as provided in par. (e), a decision shall be rendered by
the circuit court commissioner on the return date if there is time available for a
hearing, the parties do not intend to call witnesses, and the parties agree to such a
hearing. If for any of the reasons stated in this paragraph, the matter cannot be
heard on the return date, an adjourned date shall be set.
Section 243. 799.207 (1) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:
$\sqrt{799.207}$ (1) (e) If the <u>circuit</u> court commissioner cannot reach a decision on the
return or adjourned date, the commissioner shall mail the decision to each party
within 30 days of the date of the hearing.
Section 244. 799.207 (2) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:
799.207 (2) (intro.) The circuit court commissioner's decision shall become a
judgment 11 days after rendering, if oral, and 16 days after mailing, if written, except
that:
SECTION 245. 799.207 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:
$\sqrt{799.207}$ (3) (b) The circuit court commissioner shall give each of the parties a
form and instructions which shall be used for giving notice of an election to have the
matter heard by the court.
SECTION 246. 799.209 (1) to (4) of the statutes are amended to read:
799.209 (1) The court or circuit court commissioner shall conduct the
proceeding informally, allowing each party to present arguments and proofs and to
examine witnesses to the extent reasonably required for full and true disclosure of
the facts.
(2) The proceedings shall not be governed by the common law or statutory rules
of evidence except those relating to privileges under ch. 905 or to admissibility under

- s. 901.05. The court or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner shall admit all other evidence having reasonable probative value, but may exclude irrelevant or repetitious evidence or arguments. An essential finding of fact may not be based solely on a declarant's oral hearsay statement unless it would be admissible under the rules of evidence.
- (3) The court or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner may conduct questioning of the witnesses and shall endeavor to ensure that the claims or defenses of all parties are fairly presented to the court or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner.
- (4) The court or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner shall establish the order of trial and the procedure to be followed in the presentation of evidence and arguments in an appropriate manner consistent with the ends of justice and the prompt resolution of the dispute on its merits according to the substantive law.

SECTION 247. 799.21 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 248. 799.21 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

Section 249. 799.24 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

799.24 (1) Entry of Judgment or order; notice of entry thereof. When a judgment or an order is rendered, the judge, circuit court commissioner or clerk of circuit court shall immediately enter it in the court record and note the date thereof which shall be the date of entry of judgment or order. The clerk of circuit court, except in municipal and county forfeiture actions, shall mail a notice of entry of judgment to the parties or their attorneys at their last—known address within 5 days of its entry. Upon payment of the exact amount of the fee prescribed in s. 814.62 (3) (c), the clerk of circuit court shall enter the judgment in the judgment and lien docket.

SECTION 250. 799.24 (3) of the statutes is amended to read.

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

Section 251. 799.26 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 252. 803.01 (3) (b) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

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

Section 253. 807.02 of the statutes is amended to read:

807.02 Motions, where heard; stay of proceedings. Except as provided in s. 807.13 or when the parties stipulate otherwise and the court approves, motions in actions or proceedings in the circuit court must be heard within the circuit where the action is triable. Orders out of court, not requiring notice, may be made by the presiding judge of the court in any part of the state. No order to stay proceedings 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 254. 807.04 (1) of the statutes programmed by 1991 Wiscops in Act 1844
4	is amended to read:
5	807.04 (1) Except as provided under sub. (2), all trials, and all hearings at
6	which oral testimony is to be presented, shall be held in open court. The court may
7	make any order which a judge or <u>a circuit or supplemental</u> court commissioner has
8	power to make. Court commissioners shall have the powers provided in ch. 753 or
9,	by other statute.
10	SECTION 255. 807.09 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:
11	807.09 (1) A circuit judge of the circuit court of any county may appoint and
12	remove at any time, any retired or former circuit or county court judge to act, in
13	matters referred by the judge and in conciliation matters. When a matter for
14	conciliation is referred for such purpose, the conciliator shall have full authority to
<b>1</b> 5	hear, determine and report findings to the court. Such conciliators may be appointed
16	circuit court commissioners as provided in s. 757.68 under SCR 75.02 (1)
17	Section 256. 812.30 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:
18	812.30 (2) "Court" includes a circuit court commissioner assigned to preside at
19	a proceeding under this subchapter.
20	Section 257. 813.025 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:
21	813.025 (1) No circuit or supplemental court commissioner shall may issue any
22	injunction or order suspending or restraining the enforcement or execution of any

statute of the state or of any order of an administrative officer, board, department,

commission or other state agency purporting to be made pursuant to the statutes of

the state. If so issued such, the injunction or order shall be void.

SECTION 258. 813.12 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 259. 813.12 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 260. 813.12 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

813.12 (3) (a) A judge or family circuit court commissioner shall issue a temporary restraining order ordering the respondent to refrain from committing acts of domestic abuse against the petitioner, to avoid the petitioner's residence, except as provided in par. (am), or any premises temporarily occupied by the petitioner or both, or to avoid contacting or causing any person other than a party's attorney to contact the petitioner unless the petitioner consents in writing, or any combination of these remedies requested in the petition, if all of the following occur:

- 1. The petitioner submits to the judge or family circuit court commissioner a petition alleging the elements set forth under sub. (5) (a).
- 2. The judge or family circuit court commissioner finds reasonable grounds to believe that the respondent has engaged in, or based on prior conduct of the petitioner and the respondent may engage in, domestic abuse of the petitioner. In determining whether to issue a temporary restraining order, the judge or family circuit court commissioner shall consider the potential danger posed to the petitioner and the pattern of abusive conduct of the respondent but may not base his or her decision solely on the length of time since the last domestic abuse or the length of time since the relationship ended. The judge or family circuit court commissioner may grant only the remedies requested or approved by the petitioner.

SECTION 261. 813.12 (3) (am) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

petitioner relocates and shall order the respondent to avoid the new residence for the
 duration of the order.

SECTION 262. 813.12 (3) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

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

\$13.12 (3) (d) The judge or circuit court commissioner shall advise the petitioner of the right to serve the respondent the petition by published notice if with due diligence the respondent cannot be served as provided under s. 801.11 (1) (a) or (b). The clerk of circuit court shall assist the petitioner with the preparation of the notice and filing of the affidavit of printing.

SECTION 264. 813.12 (4) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

813.12 (4) (a) (intro.) A judge or family circuit court commissioner may grant an injunction ordering the respondent to refrain from committing acts of domestic abuse against the petitioner, to avoid the petitioner's residence, except as provided in par. (am), or any premises temporarily occupied by the petitioner or both, or to avoid contacting or causing any person other than a party's attorney to contact the

petitioner unless the petitioner consents to that contact in writing, or any combination of these remedies requested in the petition, if all of the following occur:

SECTION 265. 813.12 (4) (a) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 266. 813.12 (4) (am) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 267. 813.12 (4) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

813.12 (4) (b) The judge or family circuit court commissioner may enter an injunction only against the respondent named in the petition. No injunction may be issued under this subsection under the same case number against the person petitioning for the injunction. The judge or family circuit court commissioner may

not modify an order restraining the respondent based solely on the request of the respondent.

SECTION 268. 813.12 (4m) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 269. 813.12 (4m) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 270. 813.12 (4m) (b) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

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

SECTION 271. 813.12 (5) (c) of the statutes is amended to read: