AN ACT to repeal 767.02 (title), 767.05 (title) and (1), 767.05 (2) (title), 767.078 (title), 767.09 (title), 767.11 (15), 767.14, 767.145 (title) and (1), 767.19 (title), 767.23 (1g), 767.24 (9), 767.253 (title), 767.265 (title), 767.29 (1) (f), 767.293, 767.295 (title), 767.325 (9), 767.327 (7), 767.39 (title), 767.39 (2), 767.42, 767.455 (5g), 767.455 (5r), 767.455 (5w), 767.457 (title), 767.457 (2), 767.458 (1) (a) to (e) and 767.465 (2m) (b); to renumber 767.001 (3) and (4), 767.025 (2) and (4), 767.03 (title), 767.05 (7), 767.07 (title), 767.085 (4), 767.19 (2), 767.20, 767.23 (1m), 767.24 (title), 767.24 (1) (title), 767.266, 767.305 (title), 767.32 (2r), 767.455 (title) and (1) to (4), 767.456, 767.458 (title), 767.465 (2m) (c), (3) and (4), 767.466 and 767.48 (title); to renumber and amend 767.01 (3), 767.015, 767.02 (1), 767.02 (2), 767.025 (title), 767.025 (intro.), 767.025 (1), 767.027, 767.03, 767.04, 767.045, 767.05 (1m), 767.05 (2), 767.05 (3), 767.05 (4), 767.05 (5), 767.05 (6), 767.07, 767.075, 767.077, 767.078 (1), 767.078 (2), 767.08, 767.081, 767.082, 767.083, 767.085 (title), 767.085 (1), 767.085 (2), 767.085 (2m) and (3), 767.087, 767.09 (1) and (2), 767.10, 767.11 (title) and (1), 767.11 (2) to (14), 767.115 (title), 767.115 (1) (a), 767.115 (1) (b), 767.115 (1m), (2) and (3), 767.115 (4), 767.12 (title) and (1), 767.12 (2) and (3), 767.125, 767.145 (2), 767.15, 767.15, 767.15, 767.15, 767.15, 767.16, 767.17, 767.19 (1), 767.19 (1), 767.21, 767.21, 767.22, 767.23 (title) and (1), 767.23 (1n), 767.23 (2), 767.23 (3), 767.24 (1), 767.24 (1m) to (8), 767.242, 767.245, 767.247, 767.25 (title) and (1) to (4), 767.25 (4m), 767.25 (5) to (7), 767.253, 767.254, 767.255, 767.256, 767.256, 767.256, 767.256 (1), 767.256 (1m) to (7m), 767.256 (8), 767.267, 767.267, 767.267, 767.267, 767.267 (title), (1), (1m) and (2), 767.27 (2m), 767.27 (3), (4) and (5), 767.275, 767.28, 767.29 (title), 767.29 (1) (a), (b) and (c), 767.29 (1) (d) and (dm), 767.29 (1) (e), 767.29 (1m) to (4), 767.295 (1) and (2) (a), 767.295 (2) (b) and (c), 767.30, 767.303 (title), 767.303 (1), 767.303 (2) to (5), 767.305, 767.31, 767.32 (title), 767.32 (1) (a), 767.32 (1) (b), (c) and (d), 767.32 (1m), 767.32 (1r), 767.32 (2), 767.32 (2m), 767.32 (2s), 767.32 (2w), 767.32 (3), 767.32 (4), 767.32 (5), 767.325 (intro.) and (1) to (5), 767.325 (5m), 767.325 (6) to (8), 767.327 (title) and (1) to (6), 767.329, 767.33, 767.37 (title), 767.37 (1) (a), 767.37 (1) (c), 767.37 (2), 767.37 (3), 767.38, 767.39 (1), 767.40, 767.45, 767.455 (5), 767.455 (6), 767.457 (1), 767.458 (1) (intro.), 767.458 (1m) to (3), 767.459 (title), 767.459, 767.46, 767.463, 767.465 (title), (1), (1m), (2) and (2m) (title) and (a), 767.47, 767.475, 767.477, 767.48 (1) (a), 767.48 (1) (b) and (1m) to (7), 767.50, 767.51, 767.52, 767.53, 767.60 and 767.62; to amend 46.21.46 (5) (b), 48.988 (11), 48.989 (2), 69.15 (3) (b) 1., 69.15 (3) (b) 3., 767.01 (1), 767.16, 808.075 (4) (d) 13. and 814.615 (1) (a) (intro.) and (2); and to create subchapter I (title) of chapter 767 [precedes 767.001], 767.001 (1b), 767.005, 767.01 (2) (title), subchapter II (title) of chapter 767 [precedes 767.105], 767.117 (1) (title) and (3) (title), 767.127 (3) (title), 767.17, subchapter III (title) of chapter 767 [precedes 767.201], 767.201, 767.205 (title), 767.215 (4) (title), 767.215 (5), 767.225 (3m) (title), 767.235 (3) (title), 767.241 (1) (title), (2) (title), (3) (title) and (4) (title), 767.264 (title), 767.264 (title), 767.264 (title) and (4) (title), subchapter IV (title) of chapter 767 [precedes 767.301], 767.313 (2), 767.315 (title), 767.34 (2) (title), subchapter V (title) of chapter 767 [precedes 767.401], 767.401 (1) (title) and (2) (title), 767.405 (1) (intro.), 767.43 (1) (title), (1m) (title), (2) (title), (2m) (title), (3) (title), (3c) (title), (3m) (title), (5) (title) and (6) (title), subchapter VI (title) of chapter 767 [precedes 767.501],

* Section 991.11, WISCONSIN STATUTES 2003−04: Effective date of acts. “Every act and every portion of an act enacted by the legislature over the governor’s partial veto which does not expressly prescribe the time when it takes effect shall take effect on the day after its date of publication as designated” by the secretary of state [the date of publication may not be more than 10 working days after the date of enactment].
2005 Wisconsin Act 443

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

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PREATORY NOTE: This bill was developed by the Joint Legislative Council’s Special Committee on Recodification of Ch. 767, Actions Affecting the Family. The special committee was directed to recodify ch. 767, stats., including possible reorganization of the chapter in a logical manner, renumbering and retitling sections, consolidating related provisions, modernizing language, resolving ambiguities in language, codifying court decisions, and making minor substantive changes.

General topics covered by ch. 767 include: annulment, divorce, and legal separation; child custody, physical placement, and visitation; support, including child support; spousal maintenance; property division; and paternity. The chapter was last recodified in the 1959 legislative session. See ch. 595, laws of 1959. Since that recodification, the chapter has expanded considerably, both in the number of individual provisions and the length of the chapter. The expansion of the chapter has resulted in a disorganized chapter, which can be difficult to use.

This bill:
(1) Reorganizes ch. 767 by:
a. Creating 9 subchapters and relocating provisions within the chapter.
b. Reorganizing individual sections, or portions of sections, by combining them with other sections, dividing single sections into 2 or more sections, and internally reorganizing single sections.
(2) Makes nonsubstantive editorial changes to modernize language and for consistency with current drafting style.
(3) Revises section titles, where appropriate, and provides subsection titles throughout the chapter.
(4) Repeals several provisions considered no longer necessary.
(5) Makes substantive changes the special committee concluded are relatively noncontroversial.

The special committee explicitly intends that, unless expressly noted, this bill makes no substantive changes in the statutory provisions treated by the bill. Substantive changes in the bill are identified in notes to the provisions substantively affected. If a question arises about the effect of any modification made by this bill, the special committee intends that the revisions in this bill be construed to have the same effect as the prior statutes.

Some of the notes to paternity-related provisions treated by the bill include references to the “paternity reform commit-
tee.” That committee was established by the family law section of the State Bar of Wisconsin. The committee’s report to the family law section board was approved by the board in May 2000. Several of the committee’s recommendations are included in this bill.

For convenience, a table of contents listing all section numbers of reorganized ch. 767 and the newly created subchapters is included in this prefatory note. Also, a finding aid is included at the end of this bill identifying the treatment by this bill of current statutory provisions within ch. 767.

The remainder of this note consists of the table of contents for reorganized ch. 767:

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Subchapter II Provisions of general application

Subchapter III General procedure
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of performance under the compact, the provisions of s. 49.90 or 767.42, ch. 769, or any other applicable state law fixing responsibility for the support of children may also be invoked.

**NOTE:** Reflects the repeal of s. 767.42 by Sec. 182 of this bill.

### Section 4. 69.15 (3) (b) 1.

69.15 (3) (b) 1. Except as provided under par. (c), if the state registrar receives a statement acknowledging paternity on a form prescribed by the state registrar and signed by both of the birth parents of a child determined to be a marital child under s. 267.60 or 767.803, a certified copy of the parents’ marriage certificate, and the fee required under s. 69.22 (5) (b) 1., the state registrar shall insert the name of the husband from the marriage certificate as the father if the name of the father was omitted on the original birth certificate. The state registrar shall include on the form for the acknowledgment a notice of the information in ss. 767.458 (1) (a) to (e) the items in s. 767.813 (5g).

### Section 5. 69.15 (3) (b) 3.

69.15 (3) (b) 3. Except as provided under par. (c), if the state registrar receives a statement acknowledging paternity on a form prescribed by the state registrar and signed by both parents, and by a parent or legal guardian of any parent who is under the age of 18 years, along with the fee under s. 69.22, the state registrar shall insert the name of the father under subd. 1. The state registrar shall mark the certificate to show that the form is on file. The form shall be available to the department of workforce development or a county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) pursuant to the program responsibilities under s. 49.22 or to any other person with a direct and tangible interest in the record. The state registrar shall include on the form for the acknowledgment a notice of the information in ss. 767.458 (1) (a) to (e) and 767.805 and the items in s. 767.813 (5g).

### Section 6. Subchapter I (title) of chapter 767 [precedes 767.001] of the statutes is created to read:

**CHAPTER 767**

**SUBCHAPTER I**

**DEFINITIONS, SCOPE, JURISDICTION, AND RECOGNITION OF JUDGMENTS**

### Section 7. 767.001 (1b)

767.001 (1b) “Court” includes the circuit court commissioner when the circuit court commissioner has been authorized by law to exercise the authority of the court or has been delegated that authority as authorized by law.

**NOTE:** Permits substitution of “court” for “court or circuit court commissioner” or “judge or circuit court commissioner” as the latter appears in ch. 767. Separate references to “supplemental court commissioner” in ch. 767 are retained.

### Section 8. 767.001 (3) and (4)

767.001 (3) and (4) of the statutes are renumbered 767.405 (1) (a) and (b).
NOTE: Relocates definitions of “mediation” and “mediator” in the current general definitions section of ch. 767 to the section in the chapter relating to family court services. With the exception of 2 cross-references to the terms in other sections in this chapter, this is the only section in the chapter in which those terms appear.

SECTION 9. 767.005 of the statutes is created to read:
767.005 Scope. This chapter applies to actions affecting the family.

NOTE: Explicitly states what is implicit in current ch. 767. Note that the term “action affecting the family” is now a defined term in the definitions section. See Sec. 15 of this bill.

SECTION 10. 767.01 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.01 (1) GENERALLY. The circuit courts have jurisdiction of all actions affecting the family and have authority to do all acts and things necessary and proper in such those actions and to carry their orders and judgments into execution as prescribed in this chapter. All actions affecting the family shall be commenced and conducted and the orders and judgments enforced according to these statutes in respect to actions in circuit court, as far as applicable, except as provided in this chapter. Except as provided in sub. (2) and (2m), jurisdiction may be exercised as provided under ch. 801.

NOTE: 1. The substance of the stricken sentence is relocated to s. 767.201, in subch. III, general procedure.
2. The underscored sentence restates part of current s. 767.05 (1), stats., which is repealed by Sec. 26 of this bill. Current s. 767.05 (1) provides: “A court of this state having jurisdiction to hear actions affecting the family may exercise jurisdiction as provided under ch. 769 or 801.”. Reference to ch. 769 is already included in current s. 767.01 (2), stats.

SECTION 11. 767.01 (2) (title) of the statutes is created to read:

767.01 (2) (title) PATERNITY AND CHILD SUPPORT.

SECTION 12. 767.01 (3) of the statutes is renumbered 767.80 (1m) and amended to read:

767.80 (1m) VENUE. An action under s. 767.45 this section may be brought in the county in which the child or the alleged father resides or is found or, if the father is deceased, in which proceedings for probate of his estate have been or could be commenced.

SECTION 13. 767.015 of the statutes is renumbered 767.01 (2m), and 767.01 (2m) (title), as renumbered, is amended to read:

767.01 (2m) (title) CHILD CUSTODY JURISDICTION.

NOTE: Combines s. 767.015 with s. 767.01, which currently delineates those actions comprising “actions affecting the family,” into the general definitions section for ch. 767.

SECTION 14. 767.02 (title) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 15. 767.02 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 767.001 (1), and 767.001 (1) (intro.) and (k), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.001 (1) (intro.) Actions “Action affecting the family are” means any of the following actions:
(k) Concerning periods of physical placement or visitation rights to children, including an action to prohibit a move with or the removal of a child under s. 767.327 767.481 (3) (c).

NOTE: Relocates s. 767.02 (1), which currently delineates those actions comprising “actions affecting the family,” into the general definitions section for ch. 767.

SECTION 16. 767.02 (2) of the statutes is renumbered 767.001 (1f) and amended to read:

767.001 (1f) “Divorce” means divorce from the bonds of matrimony or absolute divorce, when used in this chapter dissolution of the marriage relationship.

NOTE: Modernizes the definition of “divorce” and relocates the definition into the general definitions section for ch. 767.

SECTION 17. 767.025 (title) of the statutes is renumbered 767.281 (title) and amended to read:

767.281 (title) Filing procedures and orders for enforcement or modification of judgments or orders in actions affecting the family.

SECTION 18. 767.025 (intro.) of the statutes is renumbered 767.281 (1) and amended to read:

767.281 (1) APPLICABILITY. The following filing procedures shall apply. This section applies to all enforcement or modification petitions, motions or orders to show cause filed for actions affecting the family under s. 767.02 767.001 (1) (i).

SECTION 19. 767.025 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 767.281 (1m) and amended to read:

767.281 (1m) GENERALLY. Except as provided in sub. (2), if a petition, motion, or order to show cause requesting enforcement or modification of a judgment or order in an action affecting the family which that was granted by a court of this state is filed in a county other than the county in which the judgment or order was rendered, the petitioner or party bringing the motion or order to show cause shall send a copy of the petition, motion, or order to show cause to the clerk of the court in which the judgment or order was rendered. If a question arises as to which court should exercise jurisdiction, a hearing involving both judges, the court, and the parties may be held to resolve the question. The petitioner or party shall send a copy of any order rendered pursuant to this the petition, motion, or order to show cause to the clerk of the court in which the original judgment or order was rendered.

SECTION 20. 767.025 (2) and (4) of the statutes are renumbered 767.281 (2) and (4).

SECTION 21. 767.027 of the statutes is renumbered 767.70, and 767.70 (title), (1) (intro.) and (b) and (2), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.70 (title) Notice Child support enforcement: notice and service of process requirements. (1) WHEN SATISFIED. (intro.) In any an action under s. 767.02 767.001 (1) (i) to enforce or modify a judgment or order with respect to child support, due process requirements related to notice and service of process are satisfied to the extent that if the court finds all of the following:

NOTE: Clarifies that the provision applies to actions to modify child support orders and judgments.
(b) That written notice of the action to the respondent has been delivered to the most recent residential address or employer address provided by the respondent under s. 767.263, 767.58 (2) to the county child support agency under s. 767.80 (5).

2. RULES ON LOCATING RESPONDENT: The department shall promulgate rules specifying the process that the department will use under sub. (1) (a) to ascertain the location of the respondent. Notwithstanding sub. (1) (b), the process specified in the rules shall utilize all reasonable means to which the department has access, including electronic means, interfaces with other programs, and information provided by the postmaster, for determining the current address of the respondent.

SECTION 22. 767.03 (title) of the statutes is renumbered 767.313 (title).

SECTION 23. 767.03 of the statutes is renumbered 767.313 (1), and 767.313 (1) (intro.), as renumbered, is amended to read:

767.313 (1) GROUNDS; WHEN SUIT MAY BE BROUGHT (intro.) No marriage may be annulled or held void except pursuant to judicial proceedings. No marriage may be annulled after the death of either party to the marriage.

A court may annul a marriage entered into under any of the following circumstances:

NOTE: The stricken sentences are relocated to new s. 767.313 (2), created by Sec. 145 of this bill.

SECTION 24. 767.04 of the statutes is renumbered 767.18 and amended to read:

767.18 ACTIONS TO AFFIRM MARRIAGE. When if the validity of any marriage shall be denied or doubted by either of the parties, the other party may commence an action to affirm the marriage, and the court shall appoint a guardian ad litem to pursue such an action to affirm marriage shall declare such marriage valid or annul the same marriage, and be conclusive upon all persons concerned.

SECTION 25. 767.045 of the statutes, as affected by 2003 Wisconsin Act 130, is renumbered 767.407, and 767.407 (1) (am) 1., (c) and (e), (2) and (4), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.407 (1) (am) 1. Legal custody or physical placement is contested in an action to modify legal custody or physical placement under s. 767.325, 767.451 or 767.227, 767.481.

(c) The attorney responsible for support enforcement under s. 59.53 (6) (a) may request that the court or 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, 767.805 (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 circuit court commissioner shall appoint a guardian ad litem, if any of the following applies:

1. Aid is provided under s. 46.261, 48.57 (3m) or (3n), 49.19, or 49.45 on behalf of the child, or benefits are provided to the child’s custodial parent under ss. 49.141 to 49.161, but the state and its delegate under s. 49.22 (7) are barred by a statute of limitations from commencing an action under s. 267.45, 767.80 on behalf of the child.

2. An application for legal services has been filed with the child support program under s. 49.22 on behalf of the child, but the state and its delegate under s. 49.22 (7) are barred by a statute of limitations from commencing an action under s. 267.45, 767.80 on behalf of the child.

(e) Nothing in this subsection prohibits the court from making a temporary order under s. 267.45, 767.225 that concerns the child before a guardian ad litem is appointed or before the guardian ad litem has made a recommendation to the court, if the court determines that the temporary order is in the best interest of the child.

SECTION 26. 767.05 (title) and (1) of the statutes are repealed.

NOTE: The substance of this subsection is relocated to the general section on jurisdiction. See Sec. 10.

SECTION 27. 767.05 (1m) of the statutes is renumbered 767.301 and amended to read:

767.301 RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS. No action to affirm marriage or for annulment under s. 267.02, 767.001 (1) (a) or (b) may be brought unless one
of the parties has been a bona fide resident of the county in which the action is brought for not less than 30 days next preceding the commencement of the action, or unless the marriage has been contracted within this state within one year prior to the commencement of the action. No action for divorce or legal separation under s. 767.02 767.001 (1) (c) or (d) may be brought unless at least one of the parties has been a bona fide resident of the county in which the action is brought for not less than 30 days next preceding the commencement of the action. No action for divorce or legal separation under s. 767.02 767.001 (1) (c) or (d) may be brought unless at least one of the parties has been a bona fide resident of this state for not less than 6 months next preceding the commencement of the action.

Section 28. 767.05 (2) (title) of the statutes is repealed.

Section 29. 767.05 (2) of the statutes is renumbered 767.41 (1) (a) and amended to read:

767.41 (1) (a) Subject to ch. 822, the question of a child’s custody may be determined as an incident of any action affecting the family or in an independent action for custody. The effect of any determination of a child’s custody shall be not binding personally against any parent or guardian unless the parent or guardian has been made personally subject to the jurisdiction of the court in the action as provided under ch. 801 or has been notified under s. 822.05, as provided in s. 822.12. Nothing in this section chapter may be construed to foreclose a person other than a parent who has physical custody of a child from proceeding under ch. 822.

Section 30. 767.05 (3) of the statutes is renumbered 767.205 (1) and amended to read:

767.205 (1) Parties. The party initiating an action affecting the family shall be denominated the petitioner. The party responding to the action shall be denominated the respondent. All references to “plaintiff” in chs. 801 to 807 shall apply to the petitioner, and all references to “defendant” in chs. 801 to 807 shall apply to the respondent. Both parties together may initiate the petition together by signing and filing a joint petition. The parties to a joint petition shall be called joint petitioners. The parties to a joint petition shall be entitled “In re the marriage of A.B.”. An action affecting the family under s. 767.02 described in s. 767.001 (1) (a) shall be entitled “In re the marriage of A.B.”.

2. In connection with a judgment of legal separation, the court finds that the marital relationship is irretrievably broken under s. 767.12 (2) 767.315 (1) (a) or (b) 1. or 2. unless par. (b) subd. 2. applies.

Section 31. 767.05 (4) of the statutes is renumbered 767.215 (2e) and amended to read:

767.215 (2e) Petition. Relationship of Petition to Complaint. All references to a “complaint” in chs. 801 to 807 shall apply to petitions under s. 767.085 this section.

Section 32. 767.05 (5) of the statutes is renumbered 767.205 (3) and amended to read:

767.205 (3) Title of Actions. An action affecting the family under s. 767.02 described in s. 767.001 (1) (a) to (d) or (g) to (k) shall be entitled “In re the marriage of A.B. and C.D.”, except that an independent action for visitation under s. 767.245 767.43 (3) shall be entitled “In re visitation with A. B.”. An action affecting the family under s. 767.02 described in s. 767.001 (1) (f) or (m) shall be entitled “In re the support of A.B.”. A child custody action shall be entitled “In re the custody of A.B.”.

In all other respects, the general provisions of chs. 801 and 802 respecting the content and form of the summons and pleadings shall apply.

Note: The stricken sentence is relocated to the provision created by Sec. 80 of this bill.

Section 33. 767.05 (6) of the statutes is renumbered 767.264 (1), and 767.264 (1) (title), as renumbered, is amended to read:

767.264 (1) (title) Dismissal Opportunity to Respond.

Section 34. 767.05 (7) of the statutes is renumbered 767.331.

Section 35. 767.07 (title) of the statutes is renumbered 767.35 (title).

Section 36. 767.07 of the statutes is renumbered 767.35 (1) and amended to read:

767.35 (1) When Granted. A court of competent jurisdiction shall grant a judgment of divorce or legal separation if all of the following conditions are met:

(a) The requirements of this chapter as to residence and marriage assessment counseling attendance at an educational program under s. 767.401 have been complied with.  

(b) 1. In connection with a judgment of divorce or legal separation, the court finds that the marriage is irretrievably broken under s. 767.12 (2) 767.315 (1) (a) or (b) 1. or 2. unless par. (b) subd. 2. applies.

2. In connection with a judgment of legal separation, the court finds that the marital relationship is irretrievably broken under s. 767.12 (3) 767.315 (2).

(c) To the extent that it has jurisdiction to do so, the court has considered, and approved or made provision for legal custody and physical placement, the support of any child of the marriage entitled to support, the maintenance of either spouse, the support of the family under s. 767.261 767.531, and the disposition of property.

Section 37. 767.075 of the statutes is renumbered 767.205 (2), and 767.205 (2) (title), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.205 (2) (title) State Is When the State Is a Real Party in Interest.

(a) 1. An action to establish paternity whenever there is a completed application for legal services filed with the child support program under s. 49.22 or whenever s. 767.45 767.80 (6m) or (6r) applies.

(b) 1. Except as provided in par. (b) subd. 2. in any action affecting the family under a child support enforcement program, an attorney acting under s. 49.22 or 59.53 (5), including any district attorney or corporation coun-


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Section 38. 767.077 of the statutes is renumbered 767.521, and 767.521 (intro.) and (2), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.521 Support Action by state for dependent child support. (intro.) The state or its delegate under s. 49.22 or a county under s. 59.53 (5) or (6) (a) to act as the guardian ad litem of the minor child for the purpose of establishing paternity.

Section 39. 767.078 (title) of the statutes is repealed.

Section 40. 767.078 (1) of the statutes, as affected by 2005 Wisconsin Act 25, is renumbered 767.55 (3), and 767.55 (3) (a) 1., as renumbered, is amended to read:

767.55 (3) (a) 1. Is an action for modification of a child support order under s. 767.32, 767.59 or an action in which an order for child support is required under s. 767.25 (1) (c), 767.32, 767.59 or 767.62 (4) 767.511 (1), 767.805 (4), or 767.89 (3).

Section 41. 767.078 (2) of the statutes is renumbered 767.55 (3) (d) and amended to read:

767.55 (3) (d) Subsection (1) Paragraph (b) does not limit the authority of a court to issue an order, other than an order under sub. (4) par. (b), regarding employment of a parent in an action for modification of a child support order under s. 767.32, 767.59 or an action in which an order for child support is required under s. 767.25 (1), 767.51 (3) or 767.62 (4) 767.511 (1), 767.805 (4), or 767.89 (3).

Section 42. 767.08 of the statutes is renumbered 767.501, and 767.501 (2) (a) (intro.), (b), (c) and (d) and (3), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.501 (2) (a) (intro.) If a person fails or refuses to do not provide for the support and maintenance of his or her spouse or minor child, any of the following may commence an action in any court having jurisdiction in actions affecting the family. to compel the person to provide any legally required support and maintenance:

(b) The court in the action shall, as provided under s. 767.25, 767.511 or 767.26, determine and adjudge the amount, if any, that the person should reasonably contribute to the support and maintenance of the spouse or child and how the sum should be paid. This The amount must be expressed as a fixed sum unless the parties have stipulated to expressing the amount as a percentage of the payer’s income and the requirements under s. 767.40 767.34 (2) (am) 1. to 3. are satisfied. The amount so ordered to be paid may be changed or modified by the court upon notice of motion or order to show cause by either party under s. 767.59 upon sufficient evidence.

(c) The determination may be enforced by contempt proceedings, an account transfer under s. 767.267, 767.76, or other enforcement mechanisms as provided under s. 767.30 767.77.

(d) In any such support an action there shall be under this section, no filing fee or other costs are taxable to the person’s spouse, the minor child, the person with legal custody, or the nonlegally responsible relative, but after the action has been commenced and filed the court may direct order that any all or part of or all any fees and costs incurred shall be paid by either party.

(3) Public Assistance Recipients; Action by State. If the state or any subdivision thereof of the state furnishes public aid to a spouse or dependent child for support and maintenance and the spouse, person with legal custody, or nonlegally responsible relative fails or refuses to institute an appropriate court does not commence an action under this chapter to provide for the same for support or maintenance, the person in charge of county welfare activities, the county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5), or the department is a real party in interest under s. 767.25 767.205 (2) and shall initiate commence an action under this section, for the purpose of obtaining support and maintenance. Any An attorney employed by the state or any a subdivision thereof of the state may initiate commence an action under this section. The title of the action shall be “In re the support or maintenance of A.B. (Child)”.

Section 43. 767.081 of the statutes is renumbered 767.105, and 767.105 (1) and (2) (intro.) and (a) 3., as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.105 (1) Information on Available Services. Upon the filing of an action affecting the family, the office of family court commissioner shall inform the parties of any services, including referral services, offered by the office of family court commissioner and by the director of family court counseling services under s. 767.44 767.405.

(2) Other Information on Request. Upon request of a party to an action affecting the family, including a revision of judgment or order under s. 767.451 or 767.325 767.59:

(a) 3. Community resources and family court counseling services available to assist the parties.

Section 44. 767.082 of the statutes is renumbered 767.323 and amended to read:
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767.323 Suspension of proceedings to effect reconciliation. During the pendency of any an action for divorce or legal separation, the court may, upon written stipulation of both parties that they desire to attempt a reconciliation, enter an order suspending any and all orders and proceedings for such period, not exceeding 90 days, as the court determines advisable so as to permit the parties to attempt a reconciliation without prejudice to their respective rights. During the period of suspension, the parties may resume living together as husband and wife and their acts and conduct shall do not constitute an admission that the marriage is not irretrievably broken or a waiver of the ground that the parties have voluntarily lived apart continuously for 12 months or more immediately prior to the commencement of the action if such is the case. Suspension may be revoked upon the motion of either party by an order of the court. If the parties become reconciled, the court shall dismiss the action. If the parties are not reconciled after the period of suspension, the action shall proceed as though no reconciliation period was attempted.

SECTION 45. 767.083 of the statutes is renumbered 767.335 and amended to read:

767.335 Waiting period in certain actions for final hearing or trial. No petition for divorce or legal separation may not be brought to final hearing or trial until the happening of whichever of the following events occurs first of the following occurs:

(1) GENERALLY. The expiration of 120 days after service of the summons and petition upon the respondent or the expiration of 120 days after the filing of the joint petition;

(2) EMERGENCY. An order by the court, after consideration of the recommendation of 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 the order, specify the grounds therefor for the order.

SECTION 46. 767.085 (title) of the statutes is renumbered 767.215 (title) and amended to read:

767.215 (title) Petition Initiating action; petition and response.

SECTION 47. 767.085 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 767.215 (2), and 767.215 (2) (intro.), (a) to (f), (i) and (j) (intro.), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.215 (2) PETITION CONTENTS CONTENT (intro.). Except as otherwise provided, in any an action affecting the family, the petition shall state:

(a) The name and birthdate of the parties, the social security numbers of the husband and wife and their occupations, the date and place of marriage, and the facts relating to the residence of both parties.

(b) The name, and birthdate and social security number of each minor child of the parties and each other child born to the wife during the marriage, and whether the wife is pregnant.

NOTE: 1. Repeals the requirements that social security numbers be included in the petition. See Sec. 84 for the provision replacing these requirements.

2. Repeals as unnecessary the requirement that the parties state their occupations.

(c) If the relief requested is a divorce or a legal separation in which the parties do not file a petition under s. 767.12 (3) 767.315 (2), that the marriage is irretrievably broken, or, alternatively, that both parties agree that the marriage is irretrievably broken.

(cm) If the relief requested is a legal separation and the parties have filed a petition under s. 767.12 (3) 767.315 (2), that both parties agree that the marital relationship is broken.

(d) Whether or not an action for divorce or legal separation by either of the parties was or has been at any time commenced, or is pending in any other court or before any judge thereof, in this state or elsewhere, and if:

(dm) Whether either party was previously married, and, if so, the manner in which the marriage was terminated, and, if terminated by court judgment, the name of the court in which the judgment was granted and the time and place the judgment was granted, if known.

(e) Whether the parties have entered into any a written agreements agreement as to support, legal custody, and physical placement of the children, maintenance of either party, and or property division, and if so, the written agreement shall be attached.

(f) The relief requested. When If the relief requested is a legal separation, the petition shall state the specific reason for requesting such that relief.

(i) If the action is one under s. 767.02 767.001 (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 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.

(j) (intro.) Unless the action is one under s. 767.02 767.001 (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 a circuit court commissioner.

SECTION 48. 767.085 (2) of the statutes is renumbered 767.215 (1), and 767.215 (1) (b), as renumbered, is amended to read:

767.215 (1) (b) The clerk of court shall provide without charge, to each person filing a petition requesting child support, a document setting forth the percentage
standard established by the department under s. 49.22 (9) and listing the factors which a court may consider under s. 767.25 767.511 (1m).

**SECTION 49.** 767.085 (2m) and (3) of the statutes are renumbered 767.215 (2m) and (3), and 767.215 (2m) (title) and (a) 1. and 2. and (3), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.215 (2m) (title) **SUMMONS CONTENTS CONTENT.**
(a) 1. Shall include notification of the availability of information under s. 767.081 767.105 (2) and of the contents of s. 948.31.
2. Shall be accompanied by a document, provided without charge by the clerk of court, setting forth the percentage standard established by the department under s. 49.22 (9) and listing the factors which a court may consider under s. 767.25 767.511 (1m).

(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 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.

**NOTE:** Reflects the repeal of s. 767.14 by Sec. 69 of the bill.

**SECTION 50.** 767.085 (4) of the statutes is renumbered 767.317.

**SECTION 51.** 767.087 of the statutes is renumbered 767.117, and 767.117 (1) (b) and (c) and (2), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.117 (1) (b) If the action is one under s. 767.02 767.001 (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 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.

(c) Unless the action is under s. 767.02 767.001 (1) (g) or (h), without the consent of the other party or an order of the court or 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, removing a minor child of the parties from the state for more than 90 consecutive days, or concealing a minor child of the parties from the other party.

(2) **DURATION OF PROHIBITIONS.** The prohibitions under sub. (1) shall apply until the action is dismissed, until a final judgment in the action is entered, or until the court or a circuit court commissioner orders otherwise.

**SECTION 52.** 767.09 (title) of the statutes is repealed.

**SECTION 53.** 767.09 (1) and (2) of the statutes are renumbered 767.35 (2) and (5) and amended to read:

767.35 (2) **GRANTING DIVORCE OR LEGAL SEPARATION.** When a party requests a legal separation rather than a decree of divorce, the court shall grant the decree in that form a judgment of legal separation unless the other party requests a divorce, in which case the court shall hear and determine which decree judgment shall be granted.

(4) **REVOCATION OF LEGAL SEPARATION JUDGMENT UPON RECONCILIATION.** A decree judgment of legal separation shall provide that in case of, if a reconciliation occurs at any time thereafter after the judgment, the parties may apply for a revocation of the judgment. Upon such application for a revocation of the judgment, the court shall make such orders as may be just and reasonable.

(5) **CONVERSION OF LEGAL SEPARATION TO DIVORCE.** By stipulation of both parties, or upon motion of either party not earlier than one year after entry of a decree judgment of legal separation, the court shall convert the decree judgment to a decree judgment of divorce.

**SECTION 54.** 767.10 of the statutes is renumbered 767.34, and 767.34 (title), (1) and (2) (a) and (am) 1. and 3., as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.34 (title) **Stipulation and property division Court-approved stipulation.** (1) **AUTHORITY.** The parties in an action for an annulment, divorce, or legal separation may, subject to the approval of the court, stipulate for a division of property, for maintenance payments, for the support of children, for periodic family support payments under s. 767.261 767.531, or for legal custody and physical placement, in case a divorce or legal separation is granted or a marriage annulled.

(2) (a) A court may not approve a stipulation for child support or family support unless the stipulation provides for payment of child support determined in a manner consistent with s. 767.25 767.511 or 767.54 767.89.

(3) All payment obligations included in the order, other than the annual receiving and disbursing fee under s. 767.29 (1) (d) 767.57 (1e) (a), are expressed as a percentage of the payer’s income.

**SECTION 55.** Subchapter II (title) of chapter 767 [precedes 767.105] of the statutes is created to read:

**CHAPTER 767**
**SUBCHAPTER II**

**PROVISIONS OF GENERAL APPLICATION**

**SECTION 56.** 767.11 (title) and (1) of the statutes are renumbered 767.405 (title) and (1m), and 767.405 (title) and (1m) (a) and (b), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.405 (title) **Family court counseling services.**

(1m) (a) Except as provided in par. (b) subject to approval by the chief judge of the judicial administrative
district, the circuit judge or judges in each county shall designate a person meeting the qualifications under sub. (4) as the director of family court counseling services in that county.

(b) If 2 or more contiguous counties enter into a cooperative agreement under sub. (3) (b), the circuit judges for the counties involved shall, subject to approval by the chief judge of the judicial administrative district, designate a person meeting the qualifications under sub. (4) as the director of family court counseling services for those counties.

Section 57. 767.11 (2) to (14) of the statutes, as affected by 2003 Wisconsin Act 130, are renumbered 767.405 (2) to (14), and 767.405 (2) (intro.), (c) and (d), (3) (a), (b) and (c), (5) (a) (intro.), (b) and (c), (6), (7), (8) (a), (12) and (13), as renumbered, are amended to read: 767.405 (2) Duties. (intro.) A director of family court counseling services designated under sub. (1) (1m) shall administer a family court counseling services office if such an office is established under sub. (3) (a) or (b). Regardless of whether such an office is established, the director shall:

(c) Supervise and perform mediation and any legal custody and physical placement study services authorized under sub. (14), and evaluate the quality of any such mediation or study services.

(d) Administer and manage funding for family court counseling services.

(3) (a) A county may establish a family court counseling services office to provide mediation in that county.

(b) Two or more contiguous counties may enter into a cooperative agreement to establish one family court counseling services office to provide mediation in those counties.

(c) A director of family court counseling services designated under sub. (4) (1m) may contract with any person or public or private entity, located in a county in which the director administers family court counseling services or in a contiguous county, to provide mediation in such a county in which the person or entity is located.

(5) (a) (intro.) Except as provided in sub. (8) (b), in any action affecting the family, including a revision of judgment or order under s. 767.32 767.451 or 767.325 767.59, in which it appears that legal custody or physical placement is contested, the court or circuit court commissioner shall refer the parties to the director of family court counseling services for possible mediation of those contested issues. The court or circuit court commissioner shall inform the parties of all of the following:

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

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

6 Action upon referral. (a) Whenever a court or 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 that it is appropriate. If the mediator determines that mediation is not appropriate, he or she shall so notify the court. Whenever a court or 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.

(b) Any intake form that the family court counseling services requires the parties to complete before commencement of mediation shall ask each party whether either of the parties has engaged in interspousal battery, as described in s. 940.19 or 940.20 (1m), or domestic abuse, as defined in s. 813.12 (1) (am).

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 under this subsection shall sign and file with the director of family court counseling services and with the court or circuit court commissioner a written notice stating the mediator’s name and the date of the first meeting with the mediator.

8 (a) Except as provided in par. (b), in any action affecting the family, including an agreement for revision of judgment or order under s. 767.32 767.451 or 767.325 767.59, in which it appears that legal custody or physical placement is contested, the parties shall attend at least one session with a mediator assigned under sub. (6) (a) or contracted with under sub. (7) and, if the parties and the mediator determine that continued mediation is appropriate, no court may hold a trial of or a final hearing on legal custody or physical placement until after mediation is completed or terminated.

12 Mediation agreement. (a) Any agreement which that resolves issues of legal custody or periods of physical placement between the parties and that is reached as a result of mediation under this section shall be prepared in writing, reviewed by the attorney, if any, for each party and by any appointed guardian ad litem,
and submitted to the court to be included in the court order as a stipulation. Any reviewing attorney or guardian ad litem shall certify on the mediation agreement that he or she reviewed it, and the guardian ad litem, if any, shall comment on the agreement based on the best interest of the child. The mediator shall certify that the written mediation agreement is in the best interest of the child based on the information presented to the mediator and accurately reflects the agreement made between the parties. The court may approve or reject the agreement, based on the best interest of the child. The court shall state in writing its reasons for rejecting an agreement.

NOTE: Deletes current requirement that the mediator certify that the written mediation agreement is “in the best interest of the child” based on the information presented to the mediator. Reflects concern that a mediator, in general, does not have the expertise necessary, or sufficient knowledge of the information presented, to certify that the agreement is in the best interest of the child. The mediator will still be required to certify that the written mediation agreement accurately reflects the agreement made between the parties.

(b) If after mediation under this section the parties do not reach agreement on legal custody or periods of physical placement, the parties or the mediator shall so notify the court. Except as provided in s. 767.045 767.407 (1) (am), the court shall promptly appoint a guardian ad litem under s. 767.045 767.407. Regardless of whether the court appoints a guardian ad litem, the court shall, if appropriate, refer the matter for a legal custody or physical placement study under sub. (14). If the parties come to agreement on legal custody or physical placement after the matter has been referred for a study, the study shall be terminated. The parties may return to mediation at any time before any trial of or final hearing on legal custody or periods of physical placement. If the parties return to mediation, the county shall collect any applicable fee under s. 814.615.

(13) POWERS OF COURT OR 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 circuit court commissioner to make any necessary order relating to the parties during the course of the mediation.

SECTION 58. 767.11 (15) of the statutes is repealed.

NOTE: Deletes an obsolete applicability provision.

SECTION 59. 767.115 (title) of the statutes is renumbered 767.401 (title) and amended to read:

767.401 (title) Educational programs and classes in actions affecting the family.

SECTION 60. 767.115 (1) (a) of the statutes, as affected by 2003 Wisconsin Act 130, is renumbered 767.401 (1) (a) and amended to read:

767.401 (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 circuit court commissioner determines that it is appropriate and in the best interest of the child, the court or circuit court commissioner, on its own motion, may order the parties to attend a program specified by the court or circuit court commissioner concerning the effects on a child of a dissolution of the marriage. If the court or circuit court commissioner orders the parties to attend a program under this paragraph and there is evidence that one or both of the parties have engaged in interspousal battery, as described in s. 940.19 or 940.20 (1m), or domestic abuse, as defined in s. 813.12 (1) (am), the court or circuit court commissioner may not require the parties to attend the program together or at the same time.

SECTION 61. 767.115 (1) (b) of the statutes is renumbered 767.401 (1) (b) and amended to read:

767.401 (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 circuit court commissioner determines that it is appropriate and in the best interest of the child, the court or circuit court commissioner, on its own motion, may order either or both of the parties to attend a program specified by the court or circuit court commissioner providing training in parenting or coparenting skills, or both.

SECTION 62. 767.115 (1m), (2) and (3) of the statutes are renumbered 767.401 (1) (c), (d) and (e) and amended to read:

767.401 (1) (c) A program under sub. (1) par. (a) or (b) 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 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.

(d) Notwithstanding s. 767.07 767.35 (1), the court or circuit court commissioner may require the parties to an action affecting the family in which a minor child is involved to attend a program under sub. (1) par. (a) or (b) 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 circuit court commissioner.

(e) A party who fails to attend a program ordered under sub. (1) par. (a) or (b) or pay costs specifically ordered under sub. (1m) par. (c) may be proceeded against under ch. 785 for contempt of court.

SECTION 63. 767.115 (4) of the statutes is renumbered 767.401 (2), and 767.401 (2) (a), (b) and (c) 2., as renumbered, are amended to read:

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

(b) The court may refuse to hear a trial. In the case of a no order is required in.

finds have not voluntarily lived apart for at least 12 and filed with the record by.

to that for purposes of s. 767.35 (1) (b) 1.

by petition or otherwise have stated under oath or affirmation that the marital relationship is broken, the court, after hearing, shall make a finding that the marital relationship is broken for purposes of s. 767.35 (1) (b) 2.

SECTION 67. 767.125 of the statutes is renumbered 767.235 (2) and amended to read:

767.235 (2) Order for appearance. 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 orders otherwise order both parties in actions affecting the family shall be required to appear upon the final hearing or trial. An order of the court or circuit court commissioner to that effect shall accordingly be procured by the moving party, and shall be served upon the nonmoving party before the hearing or trial. In No order is required in the case of a joint petition the order is not required.

Note: Clarifies that the appearance requirement extends to final hearings.

SECTION 68. 767.127 (3) (title) of the statutes is created to read:

767.127 (3) (title) Confidentiality of disclosed information.

SECTION 69. 767.14 of the statutes is repealed.

Note: Repealed as unnecessary. The repealed section provides:

767.14 Service on office of family court commissioner and appearance by 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. 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. Those judicial circuits desiring to continue service on the circuit court commissioner may do so by adopting a local rule.

SECTION 70. 767.145 (title) and (1) of the statutes are repealed.

Note: Reflects the repeal of s. 767.14 by Sec. 69 of this bill. Section 767.145 (1) provides:

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 circuit court commissioner.
Section 71. 767.145 (2) of the statutes is renumbered 767.215 (4) (a) and amended to read:

767.215 (4) (a) Except as provided in s. 767.456 par. (b) and s. 767.815, extension of time under any other circumstances shall be governed by s. 801.15 (2), except that the

(b) The court may, upon the petitioner’s demonstration of good cause, and without notice, order an additional 60-day extension for service of the initial papers in the action if the extension motion is made within 90 days after filing the initial papers. If the extension motion is not made within the 90-day period, the court may grant the motion only if it finds excusable neglect for failure to act and good cause shown for granting the extension.

Note: Clarifies when motions for a 60-day extension for serving the initial papers must be made and the standard for granting the motion if made more than 90 days after filing the papers.

Section 72. 767.15 of the statutes is renumbered 767.217 and amended to read:

767.217 (title) Service on child support program
Notice to Child Support Program. (1) NOTICE OF PLEADING OR MOTION. 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 serving the opposite party of any motion or pleading requesting the court or 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.

(2) NOTICE OF APPEAL. In any appeal of any action affecting the family in which support or maintenance of a child of any party is at issue, the person who initiates the appeal shall notify the department of the appeal by sending a copy of the notice of appeal to the department.

(3) NONCOMPLIANCE. A judgment in any action affecting the family may not be granted unless this section is complied with or a court orders otherwise.

Section 73. 767.16 of the statutes is amended to read:

767.16 Circuit court commissioner or law partner; when interested; procedure. Neither a circuit court commissioner assisting in matters affecting the family nor a partner or a member of the commissioner’s law firm may not appear in any action affecting the family in any court held in the county in which the circuit court commissioner is acting, except when authorized to appear by s. 767.14. In case the commissioner or a partner shall be in any way interested in such an action affecting the family and no other circuit court commissioner is available, the presiding judge shall appoint some reputable attorney to perform the services enjoined upon the act as circuit court commissioner in that action. The appointed attorney shall take and file the oath and receive the compensation provided by law.

Note: 1. Removes as obsolete reference to an appearance by a court commissioner when authorized by s. 767.14.
2. Clarifies remaining language.

Section 74. 767.17 of the statutes is created to read:

767.17 Review of circuit court commissioner decisions. A decision of a circuit court commissioner under this chapter is reviewable under s. 757.69 (8).

Note: For convenience, adds a cross-reference to the provision on review of circuit court commissioner decisions by the court, including opportunity for a de novo hearing.

Section 75. 767.19 (title) of the statutes is repealed.

Section 76. 767.19 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 767.13 and amended to read:

767.13 Impoundment of record. No Except as provided in s. 767.127 (3), the record or evidence in any case shall an action affecting the family may not be impounded, or and access thereto to the record or evidence may not be refused, except by special written order of the court made in its discretion in the interests of public morals. And when impounded no officer or other for good cause shown. No person shall may permit a copy of any of the testimony or pleadings impounded record or evidence, or the substance thereof of the record or evidence, to be taken by any person other than a party to the action, or his or her attorney of record, without the special order of the unless a court orders otherwise.

Note: 1. Substitutes, as the standard for impounding or denying access to the record or evidence in an action affecting the family, “good cause shown” for “in the interests of public morals”. The new language is a more current standard for the exercise of judicial discretion, although it is recognized that it is broader than the previous standard. Inclusion of “shown” in the new language implies that someone other than the court must seek impoundment or denial of access and has the burden of persuading the court.
2. The exception clause refers to the provision on confidentiality of required asset disclosure, treated by s. 123 of the bill.

Section 77. 767.19 (2) of the statutes is renumbered 767.235 (3).

Section 78. 767.20 of the statutes, as affected by 2003 Wisconsin Act 52, is renumbered 767.395.

Section 79. Subchapter III (title) of chapter 767 [precedes 767.201] of the statutes is created to read:

CHAPTER 767
SUBCHAPTER III
GENERAL PROCEDURE

Section 80. 767.201 of the statutes is created to read:

767.201 Civil procedure generally governs. Except as otherwise provided in the statutes, chs. 801 to 847 govern procedure and practice in an action affecting the family. Except as provided in this chapter, chs. 801...
and 802 apply to the content and form of the pleadings and summons in an action affecting the family.

NOTE: 1. The first sentence is intended to restate the second sentence of current s. 767.01 (1), stats., which provides: "All actions affecting the family shall be commenced and conducted and the orders and judgments enforced according to these statutes in respect to actions in circuit court, as far as applicable, except as provided in this chapter." (The sentence is stricken from s. 767.01 (1) by Sec. 10 of this bill.) 2. The restated language of the first sentence also reflects current s. 801.01 (1) and (2), which provides:

(1) KINDS. Proceedings in the courts are divided into actions and special proceedings.

(2) SCOPE. Chapters 801 to 847 govern procedure and practice in circuit courts of this state in all civil actions and special proceedings whether cognizable as cases at law, in equity or of statutory origin except where different procedure is prescribed by statute or rule. Chapters 801 to 847 shall be construed to secure the just, speedy and inexpensive determination of every action and proceeding.

3. The second sentence is intended to restate the last sentence of current s. 767.05 (5), stats., which is stricken by Sec. 32 of this bill.

SECTION 81. 767.205 (title) of the statutes is created to read:

767.205 (title) Parties; title of actions.

SECTION 82. 767.21 of the statutes is renumbered 767.041, and 767.041 (1) (a) and (3), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.041 (1) (a) Full faith and credit shall be given in all courts of this state to a judgment in any action affecting the family, except an action relating to child custody, by a court of competent jurisdiction in another state, territory, or possession of the United States, when both spouses personally appear or when the respondent has been personally served. Full faith and credit shall also be given in all courts of this state to the amount of arrearages owed for nonpayment or late payment of a child support, family support, or maintenance payment under an order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction in another state, territory, or possession of the United States. A court in this state may not adjust the amount of arrearages owed except as provided in s. 767.225 (1m). (3) CHILD CUSTODY ACTIONS. All matters relating to the effect of the judgment of another court concerning child custody shall be governed by ch. 822.

SECTION 83. 767.215 (4) (title) of the statutes is created to read:

767.215 (4) (title) EXTENSION OF TIME FOR SERVICE.

SECTION 84. 767.215 (5) of the statutes is created to read:

767.215 (5) SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS. (a) When the petition under this section is filed with the court, the party filing the petition shall submit a separate form, furnished by the court, containing all of the following:

1. The name, date of birth, and social security number of each party.

2. The name, date of birth, and social security number of each minor child of the parties and of each child born to the wife during the marriage.

(b) A form submitted under this subsection shall be maintained with the confidential information required under s. 767.54 or maintained separately from the case file. The form may be disclosed only to the parties and their attorneys, a county child support enforcement agency, and any other person authorized by law or court order to have access to the information on the form.

NOTE: Replaces the requirement of current s. 767.085 (1) (a) or (b) that the social security numbers be included on the petition. See, also, the treatment of current s. 767.37 (1) (a) by Sec. 170 of this bill.

SECTION 85. 767.22 of the statutes is renumbered 767.055 and amended to read:

767.055 Uniform divorce recognition act Divorce Recognition Act. (1) EFFECT OF FOREIGN DIVORCE BY STATE DOMICILARY. A divorce obtained in another jurisdiction shall be of no force or effect in this state, if the court in such the other jurisdiction lacks subject matter jurisdiction to hear the case because both parties to the marriage were domiciled in this state at the time the proceeding for the divorce was commenced.

(2) PROOF. Proof that a person obtaining a divorce in another jurisdiction was domiciled in this state within 12 months prior to the commencement of the divorce proceeding therefore, and resumed residence in this state within 18 months after the date of the person's departure therefrom, or (b) from this state, or that at all times after the person's departure from this state, and until the person's return the person maintained a place of residence within this state, shall be prima facie evidence that the person was domiciled in this state when the divorce proceeding was commenced.

(3) CONSTRUCTION. This section shall be so interpreted and construed so as to effectuate its general purpose to make uniform the law of those states which enact it.

(4) TITLE. This section may be cited as the Uniform Divorce Recognition Act.

SECTION 86. 767.225 (3m) (title) of the statutes is created to read:

767.225 (3m) (title) AVAILABILITY OF DOMESTIC ABUSE RESTRAINING ORDER.

SECTION 87. 767.23 (title) and (1) of the statutes are renumbered 767.225 (title) and (1), and 767.225 (title) and (1) (intro.), (a) to (f), (h) and (k), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.225 (title) Temporary orders for support of spouse and children; suit money; attorney fees Orders during pendency of action.
(1) TEMPORARY ORDERS. (intro.) Except as provided in ch. 822, in every action affecting the family, the court or circuit court commissioner may, during the pendency thereof, make just and reasonable temporary orders concerning the following matters:

(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. 767.24 767.41 (3), in a manner consistent with s. 767.24 767.41, except that the court or circuit court commissioner may order sole legal custody without the agreement of the other party and without the findings required under s. 767.24 767.41 (2) (b) 2. This an order may under this paragraph is not have a binding effect on a final custody determination.

(b) Upon the request of a party, granting periods of physical placement to a party in a manner consistent with s. 767.24 767.41. The court or 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.

(bm) Allowing a party to move with or remove a child after a notice of objection has been filed under s. 767.327 767.85.

(c) Subject to s. 267.427 767.85, requiring either party or both parties to make payments for the support of minor children, which payment amounts must be expressed as a fixed sum unless the parties have stipulated to expressing the amount as a percentage of the payer’s income and the requirements under s. 767.10 767.34 (2) (am) 1. to 3. are satisfied.

(d) Requiring either party to pay for the maintenance of the other party. This maintenance may include the expenses and attorney fees incurred by the other party in bringing or responding to the action affecting the family.

(e) Requiring either party to pay family support under s. 767.261 767.531.

(f) Requiring either party to execute an assignment of income under s. 767.265 767.75 or an authorization for transfer under s. 767.267 767.76.

(h) Notwithstanding ss. 767.085 (1) (i) and 767.087 (1) (b) 767.117 (1) (b) and 767.215 (2) (i), prohibiting either party from disposing of assets within the jurisdiction of the court.

(k) Subject to s. 267.427 767.85, requiring either party or both parties to maintain minor children as beneficiaries on a health insurance policy or plan.

SECTION 88. 767.23 (1g) of the statutes is repealed.

NOTE: Repealed as obsolete. The repealed provision provides as follows:

SECTION 89. 767.23 (1m) of the statutes is renumbered 767.225 (3m).

SECTION 90. 767.23 (1n) of the statutes, as affected by 2003 Wisconsin Acts 130 and 326, is renumbered 767.225 (1n) and amended to read:

767.225 (1n) CONSIDERATIONS; STIPULATIONS; REVIEW. (a) Before making any temporary order under sub. (1), the court or circuit court commissioner shall consider those factors that the court is required by this chapter to consider before entering a final judgment on the same subject matter. In making a determination under sub. (1) (a) or (am), the court or circuit court commissioner shall consider the factors under s. 767.24 767.41 (5) (am), subject to s. 767.24 767.41 (5) (bm).

(b) 1. If the court or 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 circuit court or circuit court commissioner shall comply with the requirements of s. 767.25 767.511 (1n).

2. If the court or circuit court commissioner finds by a preponderance of the evidence that a party has engaged in a pattern or serious incident of interspousal battery, as described under s. 940.19 or 940.20 (1m), or domestic abuse, as defined in s. 813.12 (1) (am), and makes a temporary order awarding joint or sole legal custody or periods of physical placement to the party, the court or circuit court commissioner shall comply with the requirements of s. 767.24 767.41 (6) (f) and, if appropriate, s. 767.24 767.41 (6) (g).

(c) A temporary order under sub. (1) may be based upon the written stipulation of the parties, subject to the approval of the court or circuit court commissioner. Temporary orders made by a circuit court commissioner may be reviewed by the court.

SECTION 91. 767.23 (2) of the statutes is renumbered 767.225 (2) and amended to read:

767.225 (2) NOTICE OF MOTION FOR ORDER. Notice of motion for an order or order to show cause under sub. (1) may be served at the time the action is commenced or at any time thereafter after commencement and shall be accompanied by an affidavit stating the basis for the request for relief.

SECTION 92. 767.23 (3) of the statutes is renumbered 767.264 (2) and amended to read:

767.264 (2) ATTORNEY FEES AND OTHER AMOUNTS OWING. (a) Upon making any order for dismissal of an action affecting the family or for substitution of attorney for an action affecting the family, for with-
drawal of attorney from, or for vacation of a judgment therefore granted in any such an action affecting the family, the court shall, prior to or in its order render and grant separate judgment in favor of any an attorney who has appeared for a party to the action and in favor of any a guardian ad litem for a party or a child for the amount of fees and disbursements to which the attorney or guardian ad litem is, in the court’s judgment, entitled and against the party responsible therefor for the fees and disbursements.

(b) Upon making any an order for dismissal of an action affecting the family or for vacation of a judgment granted in any such the order, the court shall, prior to or in its order of dismissal or vacation, also preserve the right of the state or a political subdivision of the state to collect any arrearages, by an action under this chapter or under ch. 785, owed to the state if either party in the case was a recipient of aid under ch. 49.

NOTE: Clarifies the application of the provision to withdrawal of an attorney from an action affecting the family.

SECTION 93. 767.235 (3) (title) of the statutes is created to read:

767.235 (3) (title) EXCLUSION FROM COURTROOM.

SECTION 94. 767.24 (title) of the statutes is renumbered 767.41 (title).

SECTION 95. 767.24 (1) (title) of the statutes is renumbered 767.41 (1) (title).

SECTION 96. 767.24 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 767.41 (1) (b) and amended to read:

767.41 (1) (b) In rendering a judgment of annulment, divorce, legal separation, or paternity, or in rendering a judgment in an action under s. 767.02 (1) (e) or 767.62 (3), 767.001 (1) (e), 767.501, or 767.805 (3), the court shall make such provisions as it deems just and reasonable concerning the legal custody and physical placement of any minor child of the parties, as provided in this section.

NOTE: Adds actions to compel support and maintenance under renumbered s. 767.501 (former s. 767.08) to the list of actions covered by renumbered s. 767.41 (former s. 767.24), relating to legal custody and physical placement orders in specified actions affecting the family. See, also, Stat. 217 of this bill.

SECTION 97. 767.24 (1m) to (8) of the statutes, as affected by 2003 Wisconsin Act 130, are renumbered 767.41 (1m) to (8), and 767.41 (1m) (intro.), (3) (e) and (4) (d), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.41 (1m) PARENTING PLAN. (intro.) In an action for annulment, divorce, legal separation, an action to determine paternity, or an action under s. 767.02 (1) (e) or 767.62 (3), 767.001 (1) (e), 767.501, or 767.805 (3), in which legal custody or physical placement is contested, a party seeking sole or joint legal custody or periods of physical placement shall file a parenting plan with the court before any pretrial conference. Except for cause shown, a party required to file a parenting plan under this subsection who does not timely file a parenting plan waives the right to object to the other party’s parenting plan. A parenting plan shall provide information about the following questions:

(3) (e) The charges for care furnished to a child whose custody is transferred under this subsection shall be pursuant to the procedure under s. 48.36 (1) or 938.36 (1) except as provided in s. 262.29 767.57 (3).

(4) (d) If the court grants periods of physical placement to more than one parent, it shall order a parent with legal custody and physical placement rights to provide the notice required under s. 267.327 767.481 (1).

SECTION 98. 767.24 (9) of the statutes is repealed.

NOTE: Deletes an obsolete applicability provision.

SECTION 99. 767.241 (1) (title), (2) (title), (3) (title) and (4) (title) of the statutes are created to read:

767.241 (1) (title) COURT AUTHORITY.

(2) (title) PREACTION AND POSTACTION FEES.

(3) (title) TO WHOM PAID.

(4) (title) PAYMENT BY STATE OR COUNTY.

SECTION 100. 767.242 of the statutes, as affected by 2001 Wisconsin Act 109, is renumbered 767.471, and 767.471 (1) (a) and (b), (2) (intro.), (3), (4), (5) (a), (b) (intro.), 1. b. and 2. b. and c., (c), (d) and (e) and (6) (a) and (b), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.471 (1) (a) “Petitioner.” “Moving party” means the parent filing a petition motion under this section, regardless of whether that parent was the petitioner in the action in which periods of physical placement were awarded under s. 767.24 767.41.

(b) “Respondent.” “Responding party” means the parent upon whom a petition motion under this section is served, regardless of whether that parent was the respondent in the action in which periods of physical placement were awarded under s. 767.24 767.41.

(2) WHO MAY FILE. (intro.) A parent who has been awarded periods of physical placement under s. 767.24 767.41 may file a petition motion under sub. (3) if any of the following applies:

(3) Petition Motion. (a) The petition motion shall allege facts sufficient to show the following:

1. The name of the petitioner moving party and that the petitioner moving party has been awarded periods of physical placement.

2. The name of the respondent responding party.

3. That one or more of the criteria in sub. (2) apply.

(b) The petition motion shall request the imposition of a remedy or any combination of remedies under sub. (5) (b) and (c). This paragraph does not prohibit a judge or circuit court commissioner court from imposing a remedy under sub. (5) (b) or (c) if the remedy was not requested in the petition motion.

(c) A judge or circuit court commissioner court shall accept any legible petition motion for an order under this section.
(d) The petition motion shall be filed under the principal action under which the periods of physical placement were awarded.

(e) A petition motion under this section is a motion for remedial sanction for purposes of s. 785.03 (1) (a).

(4) SERVICE ON RESPONDENT RESPONDING PARTY RESPONSE. Upon the filing of a petition motion under sub. (3), the petitioner moving party shall serve a copy of the petition motion upon the respondent responding party by personal service in the same manner as a summons is served under s. 801.11. The respondent responding party may respond to the petition motion either in writing or at the hearing under sub. (5) (a) or orally at that hearing.

(5) (a) A judge or circuit court commissioner. The court shall hold a hearing on the petition motion no later than 30 days after the petition motion has been served, unless the time is extended by mutual agreement of the parties or upon the motion of a guardian ad litem and the approval of the judge or circuit court commissioner. The judge or circuit court commissioner shall determine whether to issue an injunction, the judge or circuit court commissioner may, on his or her own motion or the motion of any party, order that a guardian ad litem be appointed for the child prior to the hearing.

(b) (intro.) If, at the conclusion of the hearing, the judge or circuit court commissioner finds that the respondent responding party has intentionally and unreasonably interfered with the petitioner moving party or more periods of physical placement or that the respondent responding party has intentionally and unreasonably interfered with one or more of the petitioner’s moving party’s periods of physical placement, the court or circuit court commissioner:

1. b. Award the petitioner moving party a reasonable amount for the cost of maintaining an action under this section and for attorney fees.

2. b. Find the respondent responding party in contempt of court under ch. 785.

3. c. Grant an injunction ordering the respondent responding party to strictly comply with the judgment or order relating to the award of physical placement. In determining whether to issue an injunction, the judge or circuit court commissioner shall consider whether alternative remedies requested by the petitioner moving party would be as effective in obtaining compliance with the order or judgment relating to physical placement.

(c) If, at the conclusion of the hearing, the judge or circuit court commissioner finds that the petitioner moving party has incurred a financial loss or expenses as a result of the respondent’s responding party’s failure, intentionally and unreasonably and without adequate notice to the petitioner moving party, to exercise one or more periods of physical placement under an order allocating specific times for the exercise of periods of physical placement, the judge or circuit court commissioner may issue an order requiring the respondent responding party to pay to the petitioner moving party a sum of money sufficient to compensate the petitioner moving party for the financial loss or expenses.

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

(e) An injunction issued under par. (b) 2. c. is effective according to its terms, for the period of time that the petitioner moving party requests, but not more than 2 years.

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

(b) Within 24 hours after a request by the petitioner moving party, the clerk of the circuit court shall send a copy of an injunction issued under sub. (5) (b) 2. c. to the sheriff or to any other local law enforcement agency that is the central repository for orders and that has jurisdiction over the respondent’s responding party’s residence. If the respondent responding party does not reside in this state, the clerk shall send a copy of the injunction to the sheriff of the county in which the circuit court is located.

Note: Replaces “petition” with “motion”, “petitioner” with “moving party”, and “respondent” with “responding party”. This change is intended to avoid the current confusion resulting from using “petition”, “petitioner”, and “respondent” with reference to both the original petition in the action in which physical placement was ordered and the petition to enforce that order under this section, current s. 767.242.

Section 101. 767.245 of the statutes is renumbered 767.43, and 767.43 (4), as renumbered, is amended to read:

767.43 (4) PATERNITY DETERMINATION. If the paternity of the child has not yet been determined in an action under sub. (3) that is commenced by a person other than a parent of the child’s father but the person filing the petition under sub. (3) has, in conjunction with that petition, filed a petition or motion under s. 767.45 767.80 (1) (k), the court shall make a determination as to paternity before determining visitation rights under sub. (3).

Section 102. 767.247 of the statutes is renumbered 767.44 and amended to read:

767.44 Prohibiting visitation or physical placement if a parent kills other parent. (1) WHEN PROHIBITED. Notwithstanding ss. 767.23 (1) (am), 767.24 (1), (4) and (5), 767.51 (3) and 767.62 (4) (a) 767.225 (1) (am), 767.41 (1), (4), and (5), 767.805 (4) (a), and 767.89 (3) and except as provided in sub. (2), in an action under this chapter that affects a minor child, a court or circuit court commissioner may not grant to the child’s parent visitation or physical placement rights with the child if the parent has been convicted under s. 940.01 of the first-degree intentional homicide, or under s. 940.05 of the 2nd-degree intentional homicide, of the child’s other
parent, and the conviction has not been reversed, set aside, or vacated.

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

**Section 103.** 767.25 (title) and (1) to (4) of the statutes are renumbered 767.511 (title) and (1) to (4), and 767.511 (1) and (1m) (em) and (f), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.511 (1) **When ordered.** Whenever when the court approves a stipulation for child support under s. 767.10 767.34, enters a judgment of annulment, divorce, or legal separation, or enters an order or a judgment in a paternity action or in an action under s. 767.02 (1) (f) or (j), 767.08 or 767.62 (3) 767.001 (1) (f) or (j), 767.501, or 767.805 (3), the court shall do all of the following:

(a) Order either or both parents to pay an amount reasonable or necessary to fulfill a duty to support a child. The support amount must be expressed as a fixed sum unless the parties have stipulated to expressing the amount as a percentage of the payer’s income and the requirements under s. 767.10 767.34 (2) (am) 1. to 3. are satisfied.

(b) Ensure that the parties have stipulated which party, if either is eligible, will claim each child as an exemption for federal income tax purposes under 26 USC 151 (c) (1) (B), or as an exemption for state income tax purposes under s. 71.07 (8) (b) or under the laws of another state. If the parties are unable to reach an agreement about the tax exemption for each child, the court shall make the decision in accordance with state and federal tax laws. In making its decision, the court shall consider whether the parent who is assigned responsibility for the child’s health care expenses under sub. (4m) s. 767.513 is covered under a health insurance policy or plan, including a self-insured plan, that is not subject to s. 632.897 (10) and that conditions coverage of a dependent child on whether the child is claimed by the insured parent as an exemption for purposes of federal or state income taxes.

(1m) (em) Extraordinary travel expenses incurred in exercising the right to periods of physical placement under s. 767.24 767.41.

(f) The physical, mental, and emotional health needs of the child, including any costs for health insurance as provided for under sub. (4m) s. 767.513.

**Section 104.** 767.25 (4m) of the statutes is renumbered 767.513, and 767.513 (1) to (3), (4) (b), (5) (b) and (6), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.513 (1) **Definition.** In this subsection section, “health insurance” does not include medical assistance provided under subch. IV of ch. 49.

(2) **Responsibility and payment.** In addition to ordering child support for a child under sub. s. 767.511 (1), the court 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 shall consider whether a child is covered under a parent’s health insurance policy or plan at the time the court approves a stipulation for child support under s. 767.10 767.34, enters a judgment of annulment, divorce, or legal separation, or enters an order or a judgment in a paternity action or in an action under s. 767.02 (1) (f) or (j), 767.08 or 767.62 (3) 767.001 (1) (f) or (j), 767.501, or 767.805 (3), 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 subsection section. If a parent is required to do so, he or she shall provide copies of necessary program or policy identification to the custodial parent and is liable for any health care costs for which he or she receives direct payment from an insurer. This subsection section shall not be construed to limit the authority of the court to enter or modify support orders containing provisions for payment of medical expenses, medical costs, or insurance premiums which are in addition to and not inconsistent with this subsection section.

(3) **Income withholding and assignment.** (a) In directing the manner of payment of a child’s health care expenses, the court 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 in s. 767.265 767.75 (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 orders income withholding and assignment for the payment of health care expenses, the court or county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) shall send notice of assignment in the manner provided under s. 767.265 767.75 (2r) and may include the notice of assignment under this subdivision paragraph with a notice of assignment under s. 767.265 767.75. 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.

(b) If the court 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 does not specify the manner in which payment of the health insurance premiums shall be made, the clerk of court or county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) 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. The notice of assignment under this subdivision paragraph may be sent with or included as part of any other notice of assignment under s. 767.265, if appropriate. A person who receives notice of assignment under this subdivision paragraph shall send the withheld health insurance premiums to the appropriate health care insurer, provider, or plan, as provided in s. 767.265.

(4) (b) Provide family coverage of health care expenses for the child, if eligible for coverage, upon application by the parent, the child’s other parent, the department, or the county child support agency under s. 59.53(5), or upon receiving a notice under par. (f) 1. sub. (6) (a).

(5) (b) Section 267.265 767.75 (4) applies to a garnishment based on a judgment obtained under subsection par. (a).

(6) CHANGE OF EMPLOYMENT, NOTICE. (a) If a parent who provides coverage of the health care expenses of a child under an order under this subsection section changes employers and that parent has a court—ordered child support obligation with respect to the child, the county child support agency under s. 59.53(5) shall provide notice of the order to provide coverage of the child’s health care expenses to the new employer and to the parent.

(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 subdivision paragraph may be heard by a circuit court commissioner. If the parent requests a hearing and the court or 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.

NOTE: Section 104 renames s. 767.25 (4m) (health care expenses) so that it becomes a stand alone section, separate from the general child support section. See, also, the creation of s. 767.511 (1) (c) by Sec. 219 of the bill.

SECTION 105. 767.25 (5) to (7) of the statutes are renumbered 767.511 (5) to (7), and 767.511 (5), (6) (intro.) and (7), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.511 (5) LIABILITY FOR PAST SUPPORT. Subject to ss. 267.51 (4) and 767.62 (4m) 767.805 (4m) and 767.89 (4), liability for past support shall be limited to the period after the birth of the child.

(6) INTEREST ON ARREARAGE. (intro.) A party ordered to pay child support under this section shall pay simple interest at the rate of 1% per month on any amount in arrears that is equal to or greater than the amount of child support due in one month. If the party no longer has a current obligation to pay child support, interest at the rate of 1% per month shall accrue on the total amount of child support in arrears, if any. Interest under this subsection is in lieu of interest computed under s. 807.01 (4), 814.04 (4) or 815.05 (8) and is paid to the department or its designee under s. 767.29 767.57. Except as provided in s. 767.29 767.57 (1m), the department or its designee, whichever is appropriate, shall apply all payments received for child support as follows:

(7) EFFECT OF JOINT LEGAL CUSTODY. An order of joint legal custody under s. 767.24 767.41 does not affect the amount of child support ordered.

SECTION 106. 767.253 (title) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 107. 767.253 of the statutes is renumbered 767.55 (1) and amended to read:

767.55 (1) GENERALLY. In an action for modification of a child support order under s. 767.32 767.59 or an action in which an order for child support is required under s. 267.25 (1), 767.51 (3) or 767.62 (4) 767.511 (1), 767.805 (4), or 767.89 (3), the court may order either or both parents of the child to seek employment or participate in an employment or training program.

SECTION 108. 767.254 of the statutes is renumbered 767.55 (4), and 767.55 (4) (a) (intro.) and 4. and (b) (intro.), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.55 (4) (a) (intro.) In this subsection, “unemployed teenage parent” means a parent who satisfies all of the following criteria:

4. Would be ordered to make payments for the support of a child but for par. (c) subd. 3.

(b) (intro.) In an action for revision of a judgment or order providing for child support under s. 767.32 767.59 or an action in which an order for child support is required under s. 767.25 (1), 767.51 (3) or 767.62 (4) 767.511 (1), 767.805 (4), or 767.89 (3), the court shall order an unemployed teenage parent to do one or more of the following:

SECTION 109. 767.255 of the statutes is renumbered 767.61, and 767.61 (1) and (3) (i), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.61 (1) DIVISION REQUIRED. Upon every judgment of annulment, divorce, or legal separation, or in rendering a judgment in an action under s. 267.02 767.001 (1) (h), the court shall divide the property of the parties and divest and transfer the title of any such property accordingly. A certified copy of the portion of the judgment that affects title to real estate shall be recorded in the office of the register of deeds of the county in which the lands so affected are situated. The court may protect and promote the best interests of the children by setting aside a portion of the property of the parties in a separate fund or trust for
the support, maintenance, education and general welfare of any minor children of the parties.

Note: 1. The language stricken from the first sentence, and the stricken second sentence, are relocated, with revisions, into new subs. (5) (a) and (6). See Sec. 232 of this bill.
2. The last sentence is relocated to new sub. (4). See Sec. 232 of this bill.

(3) (i) The amount and duration of an order under s. 767.26 767.56 granting maintenance payments to either party, any order for periodic family support payments under s. 767.264 767.531 and whether the property division is in lieu of such payments.

Section 110. 767.26 of the statutes is renumbered 767.56, and 767.56 (intro.), (3) and (8), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.56 Maintenance payments.  (intro.) Upon every a judgment of annulment, divorce, or legal separation, or in rendering a judgment in an action under s. 767.02 767.001 (1) (g) or (j), the court may grant an order requiring maintenance payments to either party for a limited or indefinite length of time after considering:

(3) The division of property made under s. 767.55 767.61.

(8) Any mutual agreement made by the parties before or during the marriage, according to the terms of which one party has made financial or service contributions to the other with the expectation of reciprocation or other compensation in the future, where such if the repayment has not been made, or any mutual agreement made by the parties before or during the marriage concerning any arrangement for the financial support of the parties.

Section 111. 767.261 of the statutes is renumbered 767.531, and 767.531 (intro.), as renumbered, is amended to read:

767.531 Family support.  (intro.) The court may make a financial order designated “family support” as a substitute for child support orders under s. 767.25 767.51 and maintenance payment orders under s. 767.26 767.56. A party ordered to pay family support under this section shall pay simple interest at the rate of 1% per month on any amount in arrears that is equal to or greater than the amount of child support due in one month. If the party no longer has a current obligation to pay child support, interest at the rate of 1% per month shall accrue on the total amount of child support in arrears, if any. Interest under this section is in lieu of interest computed under s. 807.01 (4), 814.04 (4) or 815.05 (8) and is paid to the department or its designee under s. 767.29 767.57. Except as provided in s. 767.29 767.57 (1m), the department or its designee, whichever is appropriate, shall apply all payments received for family support as follows:

Section 112. 767.262 of the statutes is renumbered 767.241, and 767.241 (title), as renumbered, is amended to read:

767.241 (title) Award of attorney fees and other fees and costs.

Section 113. 767.263 of the statutes is renumbered 767.58, and 767.58 (title) and (1), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.58 (title) Notice of change of employer, change of address, and change in ability to pay; other information.  (1) Support or maintenance order; notice requirements. Each order for child support, family support, or maintenance payments shall include an order that the payer and payee notify the county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) of any change of address within 10 business days of such change. Each order for child support, family support, or maintenance payments shall also include an order that the payer notify the county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) and the payee, within 10 business days, of any change of employer and of any substantial change in the amount of his or her income, including receipt of bonus compensation, such that affecting his or her ability to pay child support, family support, or maintenance is affected. The order shall also include a statement that clarifies that notification of any substantial change in the amount of the payer’s income will not result in a change of the order unless a revision of the order under s. 767.32 767.59 or an annual adjustment of the child or family support amount under s. 767.53 767.553 is sought. An order under this subsection is enforceable under ch. 785.

Note: Clarifies that an order under the provision is enforceable by contempt proceedings.

Section 114. 767.264 (title) of the statutes is created to read:

767.264 (title) Dismissal; vacation; substitution or withdrawal of attorney.

Section 115. 767.265 (title) of the statutes is repealed.

Section 116. 767.265 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 767.75 (1) (b) and amended to read:

767.75 (1) (b) Each “Payment order” means an order for child support under this chapter, for maintenance payments under s. 767.23 767.225 or 767.26 767.56, for family support under this chapter, for costs ordered under s. 767.51 (3) or 767.62 (4), 767.805 (4) or 767.89 (3), for support by a spouse under s. 767.02 767.001 (1) (f), or for maintenance payments under s. 767.02 (1) (g) or 767.001 (1) (g), each 767.001 (1) (g); an order for or obligation to pay the annual receiving and disbursing fee under s. 767.29 (4) (d) or 767.57 (1e) (a); an order for a revision in a judgment or order with respect to child support, maintenance, or family support payments under s. 767.32 767.59; a stipulation approved by the court or a circuit court commissioner for child support under this chapter, and each an order for child or spousal support entered under s. 948.22 (7) 2.

(1f) Payment order as assignment of income. A payment order constitutes an assignment of all commissions, earnings, salaries, wages, pension benefits, benefits under ch. 102 or 108, lottery prizes that are payable
in installments, and other money due or to be due in the future to the department or its designee. The assignment shall be for an amount sufficient to ensure payment under the order, obligation, 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, obligation, 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 117. 767.265 (1m) to (7m) of the statutes are renumbered 767.75 (1m) to (7m), and 767.75 (1m), (2h), (2m) (a) 1. and 2. and (b), (2r), (3h), (4), (6) and (7m) (b) (intro.) and (c), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.75 (1m) Obligation continuing. If a party’s current obligation to pay maintenance, child support, spousal support, or family support terminates but the party has an arrearage in the payment of one or more of those payments or in the payment of the annual receiving and disbursing fee, any assignment under sub. (4) shall continue (1f) in effect, in an amount up to the amount of the assignment before the party’s current obligation terminated, until the arrearage is paid in full.

(2h) Delayed withholding. Failure to pay. If a court−ordered assignment, including the assignment specified under sub. (4) (1f) for the payment of any arrearages due, does not require immediately effective withholding and a payer fails to make a required maintenance, child support, spousal support, family support, or annual receiving and disbursing fee payment within 10 days after its due date, within 20 days after the payment’s due date the court, circuit court commissioner, or county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) shall cause the assignment to go into effect by providing notice of the assignment in the manner provided under sub. (2r) and sending 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 after the notice is mailed, by motion request a hearing on the issue of whether the assignment should remain in effect. The court, circuit court commissioner shall hold a hearing requested under this paragraph within 10 working days after the date of receipt of the request. If at the hearing the payer establishes that the assignment is not proper because of a mistake of fact, the court, circuit court commissioner may direct that the assignment be withdrawn. The payer or the county child support agency may, within 15 working days after the date of a decision by a circuit court commissioner under this paragraph, seek review of the decision by the court with jurisdiction over the action.

Note: Clarifies when the 10−day period commences for the payer to request a hearing and for the court to hold a hearing.

(2r) Notice of assignment to income source. Upon entry of each order for child support, maintenance, family support, support by a spouse, or the annual receiving and disbursing fee, 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. 267.26 267.67, 267.76 applies, the court, 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, 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.

(3h) DUTIES OF PERSON RECEIVING ASSIGNMENT NOTICE. A person who receives notice of assignment under this section or s. 767.23 (1) (L) or 767.25 (4m) (e) 767.225 (1) (L) or 767.513 (3) or similar laws of another state shall withhold the amount specified in the notice from any money that person pays to the payer later than one week after receipt of notice of assignment. Within 5 days after the day the person pays money to the payer, the person shall send the amount withheld to the department or its designee, whichever is appropriate, or, in the case of an amount ordered withheld for health care expenses, to the appropriate health care insurer, provider, or plan. With each payment sent to the department or its designee, the person from whom the payer receives money shall report to the department or its designee the payer’s gross income or other gross amount from which the payment was withheld. Except as provided in sub. (3m), for each payment sent to the department or its designee, the person from whom the payer receives money shall receive an amount equal to the person’s necessary disbursements, not to exceed $3, which shall be deducted from the money to be paid to the payer. Section 241.09 does not apply to assignments under this section.

(4) ASSIGNMENT PRIORITY. A withholding assignment or order under this section or s. 767.23 (1) (L) or 767.25 (4m) (e) 767.225 (1) (L) or 767.513 (3) has priority over any other assignment, garnishment, or similar legal process under state law.

(6) FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ASSIGNMENT OBLIGATIONS. (a) Except as provided in sub. (3m), if after receipt of notice of assignment the person from whom the payer receives money fails to withhold the money or send the money to the department or its designee or the appropriate health care insurer, provider, or plan as provided in this section or s. 767.23 (1) (L) or 767.25 (4m) (e) 767.225 (1) (L) or 767.513 (3), the person may be proceeded against under the principal action under ch. 785 for contempt of court or may be proceeded against under ch. 778 and be required to forfeit not less than $50 nor more than an amount, if the amount exceeds $50, that is equal to 1% of the amount not withheld or sent.

(b) If an employer who receives an assignment under this section or s. 767.23 (1) (L) or 767.25 (4m) (e) 767.225 (1) (L) or 767.513 (3) fails to notify the department or its designee, whichever is appropriate, within 10 days after an employee is terminated or otherwise temporarily or permanently leaves employment, the employer may be proceeded against under the principal action under ch. 785 for contempt of court.

(c) No employer may use an assignment under this section or s. 767.23 (1) (L) or 767.25 (4m) (e) 767.225 (1) (L) or 767.513 (3) as a basis for the denial of employment to a person, the discharge of an employee, or any disciplinary action against an employee. An employer who denies employment or discharges or disciplines an employee in violation of this paragraph may be fined not more than $500 and may be required to make full restitution to the aggrieved person, including reinstatement and back pay. Except as provided in this paragraph, restitution shall be in accordance with s. 973.20. An aggrieved person may apply to the district attorney or to the department for enforcement of this paragraph.

(7m) (b) (intro.) If after an assignment is in effect the payer’s employer changes its payroll period, or the payer changes employers and the new employer’s payroll period is different from the former employer’s payroll period, the clerk of court county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) may, unless otherwise ordered by a judge, amend the withholding assignment or order so that all of the following apply:

(c) The clerk of court county child support agency shall provide notice of the amended withholding assignment or order by regular mail to the payer’s employer and to the payer.

SECTION 118. 767.265 (8) of the statutes is renumbered 767.75 (1) (intro.) and amended to read:

767.75 (1) Definitions. (intro.) In this section, “employer” includes the state and its political subdivisions.

SECTION 119. 767.266 of the statutes is renumbered 767.375.

SECTION 120. 767.267 of the statutes is renumbered 767.76, and 767.76 (1) and (5), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.76 (1) Authorization of Court to Require. If the court or circuit court commissioner determines that income withholding under s. 262.265 767.75 is inapplicable, ineffective, or insufficient to ensure payment under an order or stipulation specified in s. 767.265 767.75, or that income withholding under s. 262.25 (4m) (e) 767.513 (3) 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) 767.513, the court or 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 designee, 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 circuit court commissioner. The authorization shall include the payer’s consent for the financial institution or an officer, employee, or agent of the financial institution to disclose information to the court, 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.

(5) AUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE. A financial institution or an officer, employee, or agent of a financial institution may disclose information to the court, 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 121. 767.27 (title), (1), (1m) and (2) of the statutes are renumbered 767.127 (title), (1), (1m) and (2) and amended to read:

767.127 (title) Disclosure of assets required Financial disclosure. (1) REQUIRED DISCLOSURE. In any action affecting the family, except an action to affirm marriage under s. 767.02 767.001 (1) (a), the court shall require each party to furnish, on such standard forms as required by the court may require, full disclosure of all assets owned in full or in part by either party separately or by the parties jointly. Such disclosure Disclosure may be made by each party individually or by the parties jointly. Assets required to be disclosed shall include, but shall are not be limited to, real estate, savings accounts, stocks and bonds, mortgages and notes, life insurance, retirement interests, interest in a partnership, limited liability company, or corporation, tangible personal property, income from employment, future interests whether vested or nonvested, and any other financial interest or source. The court shall also require each party to furnish, on the same standard form, information pertaining to all debts and liabilities of the parties. The form used shall contain a statement in conspicuous print that complete disclosure of assets and debts is required by law and deliberate failure to provide complete disclosure constitutes perjury. The court shall require each party to attach to the disclosure form a statement reflecting income earned to date for the current year and the most recent statement under s. 71.65 (1) (a) that the party has received. The court may on its own initiative and shall at the request of either party require the parties to furnish copies of all state and federal income tax returns filed by them for the past 2 years, and may require copies of such those returns for prior years.

NOTE: 1. Adds reference to “retirement interests” for convenience. Although current law requires disclosure of retirement interests, specific reference may make the requirement clearer to nonlawyers.

2. Requires each party to attach to the disclosure form a current income statement and the most recent W−2 statement. The requirement supplements current provisions requiring disclosure of any “other financial source” and disclosure of state and federal income tax returns for the past 2 years if requested by a party or the court.

(1m) HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION FOR MINOR CHILD. In any action affecting the family which involves a minor child, the court shall require, in addition to the disclosure under sub. (1), that each party furnish the

court with information regarding the types and costs of any health insurance policies or plans which that are offered through each party’s employer or other organization. This disclosure shall include a copy of any health care policy or plan which that names the child as a beneficiary at the time that the disclosure is filed under sub. (2).

(2) FILING DISCLOSURE FORMS. 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 a time as ordered by the court or circuit court commissioner. Information contained on such the forms shall be updated on the record to the date of hearing.

SECTION 122. 767.27 (2m) of the statutes is renumbered 767.54 and amended to read:

767.54 Required exchange of financial information. In every an action in which the court has ordered a party to pay child or family support under this chapter, including an action to revise a judgment or order under s. 767.32 767.59, the court shall require the parties annually to exchange financial information. Information disclosed under this section is subject to s. 767.127 (3). A party who fails to furnish the information as required by the court under this subsection section may be proceeded against for contempt of court under ch. 785. If the court finds that a party has failed to furnish the information required under this subsection section, the court may award to the party bringing the action costs and, notwithstanding s. 814.04 (1), reasonable attorney fees.

Note: The reference to s. 767.127 (3) in the new sentence is to the confidentiality provision of that section (current s. 767.27 (3)).

SECTION 123. 767.27 (3), (4) and (5) of the statutes are renumbered 767.127 (3), (4) and (5), and 767.127 (3) (a), (4) and (5), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.127 (3) (a) Except as provided in par. (b), information disclosed under this section shall be and under s. 767.54 is confidential and may not be made available to any person for any purpose other than the adjudication, appeal, modification, or enforcement of judgment of an action affecting the family of the disclosing parties.

(4) FAILURE TO TIMELY FILE. Failure by If either party fails timely to file a complete disclosure statement as required by this section shall authorize, the court to may accept as accurate any information provided in the statement of the other party or obtained under s. 49.22 (2m) by the department or the county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5).

(5) FAILURE TO DISCLOSE. CONSTRUCTIVE TRUST. If any a party deliberately intentionally or negligently fails to disclose information required by sub. (1) and in consequence thereof as a result any asset or assets with a fair market value of $500 or more is omitted from the final distribution of property, the party aggrieved by such the nondisclosure may at any time petition the court granting the annulment, divorce, or legal separation to declare the
creation of a constructive trust as to all undisclosed assets, for the benefit of the parties and their minor or dependent children, if any, with the party in whose name the assets are held declared the constructive trustee. The trust shall include such terms and conditions as the court may determine. The court shall grant the petition upon a finding of a failure to disclose such assets as required under sub. (1).

**SECTION 124.** 767.275 of the statutes is renumbered 767.63 and amended to read:

767.63 Disposition of Disposed assets prior to action may be subject to division. In any action affecting the family, except an action to affirm marriage under s. 767.02 767.001 (1) (a), any asset with a fair market value of $500 or more which that was transferred for inadequate consideration, wasted, given away, or otherwise unaccounted for by one of the parties within one year prior to the filing of the petition or the length of the marriage, whichever is shorter, shall be rebuttably presumed to be part of the estate for the purposes of s. 767.02 767.001 (1) (a). Transfers which that resulted in an exchange of assets of substantially equivalent value need not be specifically disclosed where such assets are otherwise identified in the statement of net worth.

**SECTION 125.** 767.28 of the statutes is renumbered 767.385 and amended to read:

767.385 Maintenance, legal custody, and support when divorce or separation denied. In any action for divorce or legal separation, although such an action results in the divorce or legal separation is denied, the court may make such order as the nature of the case renders just and reasonable for the legal custody of and periods of physical placement with any of the minor children, and for the maintenance of either spouse and support of such the children by either spouse out of property or income, as the nature of the case may render just and reasonable. If the court orders child support under this section, the court shall determine the child support payments in a manner consistent with s. 767.25 767.511, regardless of the fact that the court has not entered a judgment of divorce or legal separation has not been entered.

**SECTION 126.** 767.281 (2) (title) and (4) (title) of the statutes are created to read:

767.281 (2) (title) SUPPORT OR MAINTENANCE ORDERS.

(4) (title) SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE PAYMENTS TO DEPARTMENT.

**SECTION 127.** 767.29 (title) of the statutes is renumbered 767.57 (title) and amended to read:

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

**SECTION 128.** 767.29 (1) (a), (b) and (c) of the statutes are renumbered 767.57 (1) (a), (b) and (c), and 767.57 (1) (a) and (c), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.57 (1) (a) All orders or judgments providing for temporary or permanent maintenance, child support, or family support payments shall direct that the payment of all such sums payments be made to the department or its designee for the use of the person for whom the same has been awarded. A party securing obtaining an order for temporary maintenance, child support, or family support payments shall forthwith promptly file the order, together with all pleadings in the action, with the clerk of court.

(c) Except as provided in sub. (1m), the department or its designee shall disburse and take receipts for, 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 the moneys 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. The record shall be open to inspection by the parties to the action, their attorneys, and the circuit court commissioner.

**SECTION 129.** 767.29 (1) (d) and (dm) of the statutes are renumbered 767.57 (1e) (a) and (b) and amended to read:

767.57 (1e) (a) For receiving and disbursing maintenance, child support, or family support payments, including arrears in any of those payments in arrears, and for maintaining the records required under par. (c), the department or its designee shall collect an annual fee of $35. The court or circuit court commissioner shall order each party ordered to make payments to pay the annual fee under this paragraph in each year for which payments are ordered or in which an arrearage in any of those payments is owed. In directing the manner of payment of the annual fee, the court or circuit court commissioner shall order that the annual fee be withheld from income and sent to the department or its designee, as provided under s. 767.265. All fees collected 767.75. Fees 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 court or circuit 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 paragraph is not paid when due, the department or its designee may not deduct the annual fee from any maintenance, child or family support, or arrear-
section 131. 767.29 (1) (f) of the statutes is repealed.

Note: Repealed as obsolete. The repealed paragraph provides:

If the department determines that the statewide automated support and maintenance receipt and disbursement system will be operational before October 1, 1999, the department shall publish a notice in the Wisconsin Administrative Register that states the date on which the system will begin operating. Before that date or October 1, 1999, whichever is earlier, the circuit courts, county child support agencies under s. 59.53 (5), clerks of court and employers shall cooperate with the department in any measures taken to ensure an efficient and orderly transition from the countywide system of support receipt and disbursement to the statewide system.

Section 132. 767.29 (1m) to (4) of the statutes, as affected by 2005 Wisconsin Act 25, are renumbered 767.57 (1m) to (4), and 767.57 (1m) (intro.) and (b), (2) and (3), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.57 (1m) Overpayment. (intro.) Notwithstanding ss. 262.25, 767.511 (6) and 262.261, 767.531, if the department or its designee receives support or maintenance money that exceeds the amount due in the month in which it is received and that the department or its designee determines that the excess amount is for support or maintenance due in a succeeding month, the department or its designee may hold the amount of overpayment that does not exceed the amount due in the next month for disbursement in the next month if any of the following applies:

(b) The court or 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.

2. Procedure if recipient on public assistance. If any party entitled to maintenance payments or support money, or both, is receiving public assistance under ch. 49, the party may assign the party’s right thereto to support or maintenance to the county department under s. 46.215, 46.22, or 46.23 granting such the assistance. Such the assignment shall be approved by order of the court granting the maintenance payments or support money, and may be terminated in like manner, except that it shall. The assignment may not be terminated in cases where if there is any a delinquency in the amount to be paid to the assignee of maintenance payments and support money previously ordered or adjudged to be paid to the assignee without the written consent of the assignee or upon notice to the assignee and a hearing. When an assignment of maintenance payments or support money, or both, has been approved by the order, the assignee shall...
be deemed a real party in interest within s. 803.01 but solely for the purpose of securing payment of unpaid maintenance payments or support money adjudged or ordered to be paid, by participating in proceedings to secure the payment thereof of unpaid amounts. Notwithstanding assignment under this subsection, and without further order of the court, the department or its designee, upon receiving notice that a party or a minor child of the parties is receiving aid under s. 46.261 or public assistance under ch. 49 or that a kinship care relative or long-term kinship care relative of the minor child is receiving kinship care payments or long-term kinship care payments for the minor child, shall forward all support assigned under s. 46.261 (3), 48.57 (3m) (b) 2. or (3n) (b) 2., 49.19 (4) (h) 1., or 49.45 (19) to the assignee under s. 46.261 (3), 48.57 (3m) (b) 2. or (3n) (b) 2., 49.19 (4) (h) 1., or 49.45 (19).

(3) Procedure if recipient institutionalized or confined. (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 who 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 a circuit court commissioner may order that the 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 the person, and to that it be used for the latter person’s care and maintenance, without the appointment of a guardian under ch. 880.

(b) If a child who is the beneficiary of support under a judgment or order is placed by court order in a residential care center for children and youth, 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 residential care center for children and youth, 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 center or institution, except as otherwise ordered by the court or circuit court commissioner on the motion of a party.

SECTION 133. 767.293 of the statutes is repealed.

NOTE: Recreated by Section 235 of this bill.

SECTION 134. 767.295 (title) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 135. 767.295 (1) and (2) (a) of the statutes are renumbered 767.55 (2) (a) and (am), and 767.55 (2) (a) and (am) (intro.), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.55 (2) (a) In this subsection, “custodial parent” means a parent who lives with his or her child for substantial periods of time.

Note: Section 135 (am) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

(1) Terms of Payment. The court may provide order that any payment obligation be paid in the amounts and at the times that it considers expedient.

(2) Security for Payment. The court may impose liability for any payment listed under sub. (1) obligation...
as a charge upon any specific real estate of the obligated party liable or may require that party to give sufficient security for payment. **However, no such charge upon real estate may become effective** is effective until the order or judgment imposing liability or a certified copy of it is recorded in the office of the register of deeds in the county in which the real estate is situated.

3. **Noncompliance: Enforcement.** (intro.) If the party fails to pay a payment ordered under sub. (4) (1m) or to give security under sub. (2), the court may by any appropriate remedy enforce the judgment, or the order as if it were a final judgment, including any past due payment and interest. Appropriate remedies include but are not limited to:

**Section 138.** Subchapter IV (title) of chapter 767 [precedes 767.301] of the statutes is created to read:

**Chapter 767**

**Subchapter IV**

**Annulment, Divorce, and Legal Separation**

**Section 139.** 767.303 (title) of the statutes is renumbered 767.73 (title) and amended to read:

767.73 (title) **Enforcement of Delinquent child or family support; suspension of operating privilege.**

**Section 140.** 767.303 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 767.73 (1) (a) and amended to read:

767.73 (1) (a) If a person fails to pay, in this subsection, “support payment” means a payment ordered for support under s. 767.077, 767.521, support under s. 767.08, 767.501, child support or family support under s. 767.23, 767.225, child support under s. 767.25, 767.511, family support under s. 767.264, 767.531, revised child or family support under s. 767.32, 767.59, child support under s. 767.458, 767.863 (3), child support under s. 767.477, 767.85, child support under s. 767.51, 767.89, child support under s. 767.62, 767.805 (4), child support under ch. 769, or child support under s. 948.22 (7), the payment is:

(b) If a person fails to pay a support payment that is 90 or more days past due and the court finds that the person has the ability to pay the amount ordered, the court may suspend the person’s operating privilege, as defined in s. 286.15, until the person pays all arrearages in full or makes payment arrangements that are satisfactory to the court, except that the suspension period may not exceed 2 years. If otherwise eligible, the person is eligible for an occupational license under s. 343.10 at any time.

**Section 141.** 767.303 (2) to (5) of the statutes are renumbered 767.73 (2) to (5), and 767.73 (2) and (3), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.73 (2) **Notice of Suspension to Department of Transportation.** Whenever the court orders suspension of a person’s operating privilege under sub. (1) (b), the court shall notify the department of transportation, in the form and manner prescribed by the department. The notice to the department shall include the name and last-known address of the person against whom the support order was entered, certification by the court that the person has been notified of the entry of the support order and that there are arrearages in support payments that are 90 or more days past due, and the place where the arrearages may be paid and. The notice shall also state that the person’s operating privilege shall remain suspended until the person pays all arrearages in full or makes payment arrangements that are satisfactory to the court, except that the suspension period may not exceed 2 years.

3. **Notice of Payment to Department.** If the person subsequently pays the full amount of the arrearages or makes payment arrangements that are satisfactory to the court, the court shall immediately notify the department of transportation of the payment, in the form and manner prescribed by the department.

**Section 142.** 767.305 (title) of the statutes is renumbered 767.78 (title).

**Section 143.** 767.305 of the statutes is renumbered 767.78 (1) and amended to read:

767.78 (1) **Definition.** In all cases where a party has incurred a financial obligation, this section, “financial obligation” means an obligation for payment incurred under s. 48.355 (2) (b), 48.357 (5m) (a), 48.363 (2), 767.23, 767.25, 767.255, 767.26, 767.261, 767.262, 767.293, 767.458 (3), 767.477, 767.51, 767.62 (4), 767.725, 767.241, 767.511, 767.531, 767.56, 767.61, 767.71, 767.805 (4), 767.85, 767.863 (3), 767.89, 938.183 (4), 938.355 (2) (b) 4., 938.357 (5m) (a), or 938.363 (2).

2. **Noncompliance: Order to Show Cause.** If a person has incurred a financial obligation and has failed within a reasonable time or as ordered by the court to satisfy the obligation, and where the wage assignment proceeding under s. 767.265, 767.75 and the account transfer under s. 767.262, 767.76 are inapplicable, impractical, or unfeasible, the court may on its own initiative, and shall on the application of the receiving party, issue an order requiring the payer to show cause at some reasonable time therein specified in the order why he or she should not be punished for such misconduct as provided in subject to contempt of court under ch. 785.

**Section 144.** 767.31 of the statutes is renumbered 767.57 (5) and amended to read:

767.57 (5) **Trustee or Receiver May Be Appointed.** The court may appoint a receiver or trustee, when deemed expedient as necessary, to receive any payments ordered under this chapter, to invest and pay over the income for the maintenance of the spouse entitled thereto or the support and education of any of the minor children described in s. 767.551 (4), or to pay over the principal sum in such proportions the amount and at such times as the court directs. The court may require the receiver or trustee shall give such to post bond, with such or without sureties as in the amount that the court
requires, for the faithful performance of his or her trust directs.

NOTE: Authorizes the court to appoint a receiver, as an alternative to a trustee, to handle maintenance or support obligations. In addition, clarifies that reference to support and education of children includes any minor child or any child less than 19 if the child is pursuing an accredited course of instruction leading to the acquisition of a high school diploma or its equivalent.

SECTION 145. 767.313 (2) of the statutes is created to read:

767.313 (2) JUDICIAL PROCEEDING REQUIRED; NO ANNULMENT AFTER DEATH. A judicial proceeding is required to annul a marriage. A marriage may not be annulled after the death of a party to the marriage.

NOTE: Restates language stricken from current s. 767.03 (intro.). See Sec. 23 of the bill. Reference to voiding a marriage is not included in the restated language because ch. 767 does not include actions to void a marriage.

SECTION 146. 767.315 (title) of the statutes is created to read:

767.315 (title) Grounds for divorce and legal separation.

SECTION 147. 767.32 (title) of the statutes is renumbered 767.59 (title) and amended to read:

767.59 (title) Revision of certain judgments support and maintenance orders.

SECTION 148. 767.32 (1) (a) of the statutes is renumbered 767.59 (1) and amended to read:

767.59 (1) DEFINITION. After In this section, “support or maintenance order” means a judgment or order providing for child support under this chapter or s. 48.355 (2) (b) 4., 48.357 (5) (a), 48.363 (2), 938.183 (4), 938.355 (2) (b) 4., 938.357 (5) (a), 938.363 (2), or 948.22 (7), for maintenance payments under s. 767.26, or 767.56, for family support payments under this chapter, or for the appointment of trustees or receivers under s. 267.31, the court may, from time to time, on 767.57 (5).

(1c) COURT AUTHORITY. (a) 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. 46, 49.22 (9) if the court did not use the percentage standard established by the department under s. 49.22 (9) if the court did not use the percentage standard established by the department under s. 46.10 (14) (d), 301.12 (14) (d) or 767.25 767.511 (1n), whichever is appropriate.

(b) A court may not revise or modify a judgment or order that waives maintenance payments for either party shall not thereafter be revised or altered in that respect or shall provisions of or a judgment or order with respect to final division of property be subject to revision or modification.

NOTE: Deletes as unnecessary notice to the court commissioner in renumbered sub. (1c) (a) (intro.).

(1f) SUPPORT: SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE IN CIRCUMSTANCES. (a) Except as provided in par. (d), a revision under this section of a judgment or order with respect as to the 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 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.

NOTE: The stricken sentence is relocated to a new subsection. See s. 767.59 (1k), created by Sec. 227 of this bill.

SECTION 149. 767.32 (1) (b), (c) and (d) of the statutes are renumbered 767.59 (1f) (b), (c) and (d), and 767.59 (1f) (b) (intro.), 3. and 4. and (c) (intro.), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.59 (1f) (b) (intro.) In any an action under this section to revise a judgment or order with respect to the amount of child support, any of the following shall constitute constitutes a rebuttable presumption of a substantial change in circumstances sufficient to justify a revision of the judgment or order:

1. Failure of the payer to furnish a timely disclosure under s. 267.27 (2m) 767.54.

4. A difference between the amount of child support ordered by the court to be paid by the payer and the amount that the payer would have been required to pay based on the amount that the court to be paid by the payer and the amount that the payer would have been required to pay based on the percentage standard established by the department under s. 49.22 (9) if the court did not use the percentage standard in determining the child support payments and did not provide the information required under s. 46.10 (14) (d), 301.12 (14) (d) or 767.25 767.511 (1n), whichever is appropriate.

(c) (intro.) In any an action under this section to revise a judgment or order with respect to an amount of child support, any of the following may constitute a substantial change in circumstances sufficient to justify revision of the judgment or order:

SECTION 150. 767.32 (1m) of the statutes is renumbered 767.59 (1m) and amended to read:

767.59 (1m) PAYMENT REVISIONS PROSPECTIVE. In an action under sub. (1c) to revise a judgment or order with respect to child support, maintenance payments, or family support payments, the court may not revise the
amount of child support, maintenance payments, or family support payments due, or an amount of arrearages in child support, maintenance payments, or family support payments that has accrued, prior to the date that notice of the action is given to the respondent, except to correct previous errors in calculations.

**SECTION 151.** 767.32 (1r) of the statutes is renumbered 767.59 (1r), and 767.59 (1r) (intro.) and (c), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.59 (1r) **Credit to payer for certain payments.** (intro.) In an action under sub. (4) (1c) to revise a judgment or order with respect to child support or family support, the court may grant credit to the payer against support due prior to the date on which the petition, motion, or order to show cause is served for payments made by the payer other than payments made as provided in s. 767.29, 767.57 or 767.75, in any of the following circumstances:

(c) The payer proves by clear and convincing evidence, with evidence of a written agreement, that the payee expressly agreed to accept the payments in lieu of child or family support paid as provided in s. 767.29, 767.57 or 767.75, not including gifts or contributions for entertainment.

**SECTION 152.** 767.32 (2) of the statutes is renumbered 767.59 (2) (a) and amended to read:

767.59 (2) (a) Except as provided in sub. (2m) or (2r) par. (b) or (c), if the court revises a judgment or order with respect to child support payments, it shall do so by using the percentage standard established by the department under s. 49.22 (9).

**SECTION 153.** 767.32 (2m) of the statutes is renumbered 767.59 (2) (b) and amended to read:

767.59 (2) (b) Upon request by a party, the court may modify the amount of revised child support payments determined under sub. (2) par. (a) if, after considering the factors listed in s. 767.25, 767.511 (1m), the court finds, by the greater weight of the credible evidence, that the use of the percentage standard is unfair to the child or to any of the parties.

**SECTION 154.** 767.32 (2r) of the statutes is renumbered 767.59 (2) (c).

**SECTION 155.** 767.32 (2s) of the statutes is renumbered 767.59 (2s) and amended to read:

767.59 (2s) **Stipulation for revision of support.** In an action under sub. (4) (1c), the court may not approve a stipulation for the revision of a judgment or order with respect to an amount of child support or family support unless the stipulation provides for payment of an amount of child support or family support that is determined in the manner required under s. 46.10 (14), 301.12 (14), 767.25, 767.51 or 767.62 (4), 767.511, 767.805 (4), or 767.89, whichever is appropriate.

**SECTION 156.** 767.32 (2w) of the statutes is renumbered 767.59 (2w) and amended to read:

767.59 (2w) **When revision effective.** A revision of a judgment or order with respect to child support, family support, or maintenance payments has the effect of modifying the original judgment or order with respect to such the payments to the extent of the revision from the date on which the order revising such the payments is effective. The child support, family support, or maintenance payments modified by the order for revision shall cease to accrue under the original judgment or order from the date on which the order revising such the payments is effective.

**SECTION 157.** 767.32 (3) of the statutes is renumbered 767.59 (3) and amended to read:

767.59 (3) **Remarriage; vacating maintenance order.** After a final judgment requiring maintenance payments has been rendered and the payee has remarried, the court shall, on application of the payee with notice to the payee and upon proof of remarriage, vacate the order requiring such the payments.

**SECTION 158.** 767.32 (4) of the statutes is renumbered 767.59 (4) and amended to read:

767.59 (4) **Review when the state is a real party in interest.** In any case in which the state is a real party in interest under s. 767.205, 767.205 (2), the department shall review the support obligation periodically and when circumstances so warrant, if appropriate, petition the court for revision of the judgment or order with respect to the support obligation.

**SECTION 159.** 767.32 (5) of the statutes is renumbered 767.59 (5) and amended to read:

767.59 (5) **Notice of child support information.** A summons or petition, motion, or order to show cause under this section shall include notification of the availability of information under s. 767.081, 767.105 (2).

**SECTION 160.** 767.325 (intro.) and (1) to (5) of the statutes are renumbered 767.451 (intro.) and (1) to (5), and 767.451 (intro.), (1) (a) (intro.) and (2) (a) and (b), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.451 **Revision of legal custody and physical placement orders.** (intro.) Except for matters under s. 767.327 or 767.329, 767.461 or 767.481, the following provisions are applicable to modifications of legal custody and physical placement orders:

(1) (a) **Within 2 years after initial order final judgment.** (intro.) Except as provided under sub. (2), a court may not modify any of the following orders before 2 years after the initial order final judgment determining legal custody or physical placement is entered under s. 767.24, 767.41, unless a party seeking the modification, upon petition, motion, or order to show cause, shows by substantial evidence that the modification is necessary because the current custodial conditions are physically or emotionally harmful to the best interest of the child:

Note: The new language in sub. (1) (a) (intro.) clarifies that the “initial order” referred to in the current provision
refers to the final judgment determining legal custody or physical placement under new s. 767.41 (6). No substantive change in current law is intended.

(2) (a) If the parties have substantially equal periods of physical placement pursuant to a court order and circumstances make it impractical for the parties to continue to have substantially equal physical placement, a court, upon petition, motion, or order to show cause by a party, may modify such an order if it is in the best interest of the child.

(b) In any case in which par. (a) does not apply and in which the parties have substantially equal periods of physical placement pursuant to a court order, a court, upon petition, motion, or order to show cause of a party, may modify such an order based on the appropriate standard under sub. (1). However, under sub. (1) (b) 2., there is a rebuttable presumption that having substantially equal periods of physical placement is in the best interest of the child.

SECTION 161. 767.325 (5m) of the statutes, as affected by 2003 Wisconsin Act 130, is renumbered 767.451 (5m) and amended to read:

767.451 (5m) FACTORS TO CONSIDER. In all actions to modify legal custody or physical placement orders, the court shall consider the factors under s. 767.24 767.41 (5) (am), subject to s. 767.24 767.41 (5) (bm), and shall make its determination in a manner consistent with s. 767.24 767.41.

SECTION 162. 767.325 (6) to (8) of the statutes are renumbered 767.451 (6) to (8), and 767.451 (6m) and (8), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.451 (6m) PARENTING PLAN. In any action to modify a legal custody or physical placement order under sub. (1), the court may require the party seeking the modification to file with the court a parenting plan under s. 767.24 767.41 (1m) before any hearing is held.

(8) PETITION, MOTION, OR ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE. A petition, motion, or order to show cause under this section shall include notification of the availability of information under s. 767.084 767.105 (2).

SECTION 163. 767.325 (9) of the statutes is repealed.

NOTE: Deletes an obsolete applicability provision.

SECTION 164. 767.327 (title) and (1) to (6) of the statutes are renumbered 767.481 (title) and (1) to (6), and 767.481 (1) (a) (intro.), (2) (b) and (c) and (4), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.481 (1) (a) (intro.) If the court grants periods of physical placement to more than one parent, it shall order a parent with legal custody of and physical placement rights to a child to provide not less than 60 days’ written notice to the other parent, with a copy to the court, of his or her intent to:

(2) (b) If the parent who is proposing the move or removal receives a notice of objection under par. (a) within 20 days after sending a notice under sub. (1) (a), the parent may not move with or remove the child pend-
shall include an order, to be signed by a judge or circuit court commissioner, the court, for approval of the stipulation of the parties.

(3) **INCOME CHANGES.** (a) If the payer’s income changes from the amount found by the court or circuit court commissioner or stipulated to by the parties for the current child or family support order, the parties may implement an adjustment under this section by stipulating, on the form under sub. (2), to the changed income amount and the adjusted child or family support amount, subject to sub. (1) (b).

(b) The stipulation form must shall be signed by all parties, including the state if the state is a real party in interest under s. 767.075 (4), 767.205 (2) (a), and filed with the court. If the stipulation is approved, the order shall be signed by a judge or circuit court commissioner the court and implemented in the same manner as an order for a revision under s. 767.32 767.59. An adjustment under this subsection shall be effective as of the date on which the order is signed by the judge or circuit court commissioner.

(4) (a) (intro.) Any party, including the state if the state is a real party in interest under s. 767.075 (4), 767.205 (2) (a), may file a motion, petition, or order to show cause for implementation of an annual adjustment under this section if any of the following applies:

(b) If the court or circuit court commissioner determines after a hearing that an adjustment should be made, the court or circuit court commissioner shall enter an order adjusting the child or family support payments by the amount determined by the court or circuit court commissioner, subject to sub. (1) (b). An adjustment under this subsection may not take effect before the date on which the party responding to the motion, petition, or order to show cause received notice of the action under this subsection.

(c) (intro.) Notwithstanding par. (b), the court or circuit court commissioner may direct that all or part of the adjustment not take effect until such time as the court or circuit court commissioner directs, if any of the following applies:

(d) If in an action under this subsection the court or circuit court commissioner determines that a party has unreasonably failed to provide the information required under sub. (1) (c) or to provide the information on a timely basis, or unreasonably failed or refused to sign a stipulation for an annual adjustment, the court or circuit court commissioner may award to the aggrieved party actual costs, including service costs, any costs attributable to time missed from employment, the cost of travel to and from court, and reasonable attorney fees.

(5) (a) Nothing in this section affects a party’s right to file at any time a motion, petition, or order to show cause under s. 767.32 767.59 for revision of a judgment or order with respect to an amount of child or family support.

**SECTION 168.** 767.34 (2) (title) of the statutes is created to read:

767.34 (2) (title) **LIMITATIONS ON COURT APPROVAL.**

**SECTION 169.** 767.37 (title) of the statutes is renumbered 767.251 (title) and amended to read:

767.251 (title) **Effect Content, preparation, and approval of judgment.**

**SECTION 170.** 767.37 (1) (a) of the statutes is renumbered 767.251 and amended to read:

767.251 (1) **CONTENT.** In any an action affecting the family, if the court orders maintenance payments or other allowances for a party or children or retains jurisdiction in such those matters, the written judgment shall include a provision statement 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 the 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. Final written agreements and stipulations of the parties shall, unless set forth in the judgment, be appended to the judgment and incorporated by reference.

(2) **PREPARATION.** The findings of fact and conclusions of law, and the written judgment shall be drafted by the attorney for the moving party, petitioner unless the court otherwise directs, 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

(3) **APPROVAL.** The draft findings, conclusions, and judgment shall first be submitted to respondent’s counsel for approval and if the circuit court commissioner has appeared at the trial of the action, such papers shall also be sent to the circuit court commissioner for approval. The judgment shall be approved by all counsel appearing, including a guardian ad litem and county child support enforcement agency attorney, and any other person designated by the court or local rule. 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.

**NOTE:**
2. The last sentence, which is stricken, is revised and relocated to sub. (1). Final written agreements and stipulations shall be appended to the judgment (unless set forth in the judgment) and incorporated by reference.
3. Clarifies responsibility for preparation and approval of the draft findings, conclusions, and judgment.

**SECTION 171.** 767.37 (1) (c) of the statutes is renumbered 767.36 and amended to read:

767.36 **Copies of judgment to parties.** At the time of filing any a judgment for an annulment, divorce, or legal separation, the attorney for the moving party who
prepared the judgment shall furnish to the clerk of court 2 true copies of the judgment, including any attachments to the judgment referenced in the judgment, in addition to the original judgment and until such time as the copies are presented, the clerk may refuse to accept such the judgment for filing. After the judgment is filed, the clerk shall mail a copy forthwith promptly to each party to the action at the last-known address, and the mailing shall be shown in the court record.

NOTE: Clarifies: (1) the party who prepared the judgment is to provide copies to the clerk; and (2) the copies are to include any attachments referenced in the judgment.

SECTION 172. 767.37 (2) of the statutes is renumbered 767.35 (6) and amended to read:

767.35 (6) Vacating or modifying divorce judgment as it affects marital status. 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 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 the 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 a circuit court commissioner or appoint some other attorney, to bring appropriate proceedings for the vacation of the judgment. The compensation of the 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 the 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 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 767.13. After the record is impounded, the record nor any part of the record shall not be offered or admitted in whole or in part into evidence in any action or proceeding except by special order of the court of jurisdiction upon good cause shown in any a paternity proceedings proceeding under this chapter or by special order of any a court of record upon a showing of necessity to clear title to real estate.

NOTE: Deletes, as obsolete, provisions relating to the court option to direct a circuit court commissioner or appoint an attorney to bring an action for vacating a divorce judgment under this section.

SECTION 173. 767.37 (3) of the statutes is renumbered 767.35 (3) and amended to read:

767.35 (3) When divorce judgment effective. When a judgment of divorce is granted it shall be effective immediately except as provided in s. 765.03 (2). Every judge who grants when granted. A court granting a judgment of divorce shall inform the parties appearing in court that the judgment is effective immediately except as provided in s. 765.03 (2) when granted but that it is unlawful under s. 765.03 (2) for a party to marry again until 6 months after the judgment is granted.

NOTE: Clarifies what the court is to inform the parties concerning the limitation on remarriage under s. 765.03 (2).

SECTION 174. 767.38 of the statutes is renumbered 767.35 (7) and amended to read:

767.35 (7) Judgment divorce judgment revoked on remarriage of parties. When a judgment of divorce has been granted and the parties shall afterwards subsequently intermarry, the court, upon their joint application and upon satisfactory proof of such the marriage, shall revoke all judgments and any orders which will not affect the right of 3rd persons and. If the judgment is revoked, the court shall order the record impounded without regard to s. 767.19, 767.13, and neither the record nor any part of the record shall not be offered or admitted, in whole or in part, into evidence in any action or proceeding except by special order of the court of jurisdiction upon good cause shown in any a paternity proceedings proceeding under this chapter or by special order of any a court of record upon a showing of necessity to clear title to real estate.

SECTION 175. 767.39 (title) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 176. 767.39 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 767.273 and amended to read:

767.273 Allowances pending appeal. In actions an action affecting the family pending in an appellate court, no an allowance for suit money, counsel fees, or disbursements in the court, nor or for temporary maintenance or support payments to the spouse or the children during the pendency of the appeal will may be made in the by the proper trial court upon motion made and decided after entry of the order or judgment appealed from and prior to the return of the record to appellate court. If the allowance is ordered before the appeal is taken, the order shall be conditioned upon the taking of the appeal and is not effective until the record is transmitted to appellate court.

NOTE: Incorporates the substance of current s. 767.39 (2), stats., which is repealed.

SECTION 177. 767.39 (2) of the statutes is repealed.

NOTE: Restated in renumbered s. 767.273. See SEC. 176 of the bill.

SECTION 178. 767.40 of the statutes is renumbered 785.07 and amended to read:

785.07 Contempt proceedings orders imposing confinement. All A contempt orders in which order imposing confinement is imposed shall be issued by a judge.
NOTE: Relocated to current ch. 785, stats., contempt of court. The provision has been interpreted as applying to contempt proceedings generally, not just those arising from an action affecting the family.

SECTION 179. Subchapter V (title) of chapter 767 [precedes 767.401] of the statutes is created to read:

CHAPTER 767
SUBCHAPTER V
CHILD CUSTODY, PLACEMENT,
AND VISITATION

SECTION 180. 767.401 (1) (title) and (2) (title) of the statutes are created to read:

767.401 (1) (title) PROGRAMS: EFFECTS OF DISSOLUTION ON CHILDREN; PARENTING SKILLS.
(2) (title) CLASSES ON PARENTING.

SECTION 181. 767.405 (1) (intro.) of the statutes is created to read:

767.405 (1) DEFINITIONS. (intro.) In this section:

SECTION 182. 767.42 of the statutes is repealed.

NOTE: Repealed as obsolete. The section, which apparently is not currently in use, allows a county to seize and sell property for the support of a spouse or child if a person abandons and fails to support the spouse or child.

SECTION 183. 767.43 (1) (title), (1m) (title), (2) (title), (2m) (title), (3) (title), (3c) (title), (3m) (title), (5) (title) and (6) (title) of the statutes are created to read:

767.43 (1) (title) PETITION; WHO MAY FILE.
(1m) (title) EXCEPTION; HOMICIDE CONVICTION.
(2) (title) WISHES OF THE CHILD.
(2m) (title) WHEN SPECIAL GRANDPARENT PROVISION APPLICABLE.

(3) (title) SPECIAL GRANDPARENT VISITATION PROVISION.

(3c) (title) ACTION IN WHICH PETITION FILED; ALTERNATIVES.

(3m) (title) PRETRIAL HEARING; RECOMMENDATION.

(5) (title) INTERFERENCE WITH VISITATION RIGHTS.

(6) (title) MODIFICATION OF ORDER IF HOMICIDE CONVICTION.

SECTION 184. 767.45 of the statutes is renumbered 767.80, and 767.80 (1) (intro.), (c), (d), (g), (i) and (k), (5) (b), (5m), (6) (a) and (c), (6m), (6r) (a) 2. c. and (7), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.80 (1) WHO MAY BRING ACTION OR FILE MOTION.
(intro.) The following persons may bring an action or file a motion, including an action or motion for declaratory judgment, for the purpose of determining the paternity of a child or for the purpose of rebutting the presumption of paternity under s. 891.405 or 891.41 (1):

(c) Unless s. 267.62 767.805 (1) applies, a man male presumed to be the child’s father under s. 891.405 or 891.41 (1).

(d) A man male alleged or alleging himself to be the father of the child.

(g) This state whenever the circumstances specified in s. 767.275 (4) 767.205 (2) (a) apply, including the delegates of the state as specified in sub. (6).

(i) A guardian ad litem appointed for the child under s. 48.235, 267.045 767.407 (1) (c), or 938.235.

(k) In conjunction with the filing of a petition for visitation with respect to the child under s. 267.245 767.43 (3), a parent of a person who has filed a declaration of paternal interest under s. 48.025 with respect to the child or a parent of a person who, before April 1, 1998, signed and filed a statement acknowledging paternity under s. 69.15 (3) (b) 3. with respect to the child.

(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. 767.05 767.205 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 born or that the mother is pregnant if the child is unborn, the name of any alleged father, whether or not an action by any of the parties to determine the paternity of the child or rebut the presumption of paternity to the child has at any time been commenced, or is pending before any judge or circuit court commissioner court, in this state or elsewhere. If a paternity judgment has been rendered, or if a paternity action has been dismissed, the petition shall state the court which rendered the judgment or dismissed the action, and the date and the place the judgment was granted if known. The petition shall also give notice of a party’s right to request a genetic test under s. 49.225 or 767.48 767.84.

(5m) APPLICABLE PROCEDURE; EXCEPTIONS. Except as provided in ss. 767.458 (3), 767.465 (2) and (2m), 767.477, 767.62 767.805, 767.863 (3), 767.85, 767.893 (2) and (2m), and 769.401, unless a man male is presumed the child’s father under s. 891.41 (1), is adjudicated the child’s father either under s. 267.51 767.89 or by final order or judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction in another state or has acknowledged himself to be the child’s father under s. 267.62 767.805 (1) or a substantially similar law of another state, no order or temporary order may be entered for child support, legal custody, or physical placement until the man male is adjudicated the father using the procedure set forth in ss. 767.45 to 767.60 this subchapter, except s. 767.805.

As excepted in ss. 767.477, 767.62 767.805, 767.85, and 769.401, the exclusive procedure for establishment of child support obligations, legal custody, or physical placement rights for a man male who is not presumed the child’s father under s. 891.41 (1), adjudicated the father, or acknowledged under s. 267.62 767.805 (1) or a substantially similar law of another state to be the father is by an action under ss. 767.45 to 767.60 this subchapter, except s. 767.805, or under s. 769.701. No person may waive the use of this procedure. If a presumption under s. 891.41 (1) exists, a party denying paternity has the burden of rebutting the presumption.
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(6) (a) The attorney responsible for support enforcement under s. 59.53 (6) (a) shall provide the representation for the state as specified under s. 767.075 (4) 767.205 (2) (a) in cases brought under this section.

(c) The attorney under s. 59.53 (6) (a) or any state attorney acting under par. (b) may not represent the state as specified under s. 767.075 (4) 767.205 (2) (a) in an action under this section and at the same time act as guardian ad litem for the child or the alleged child of the party.

(6m) WHEN ACTION MUST BE COMMENCED. The attorney designated under sub. (6) (a) shall commence an action under this section on behalf of the state within 6 months after receiving notification under s. 69.03 (15) that no father is named on the birth certificate of a child who is a resident of the county if paternity has not been acknowledged under s. 767.62 767.805 (1) or a substantially similar law of another state or adjudicated, except in situations under s. 69.14 (1) (g) and (h) and as provided by the department by rule.

(6r) 2. c. That the man male designated in s. 48.299 (6) (a) or 938.299 (6) (a) has previously been excluded as the father of the child.

(7) CLERK TO PROVIDE DOCUMENT. The clerk of court shall provide without charge to each person bringing an action under this section, except to the state under sub. (1) (g) or (6m), a document setting forth the percentage standard established by the department under s. 49.22 (9) and listing the factors which a court may consider under s. 762.25 767.511 (1m).

SECTION 185. 767.455 (title) and (1) to (4) of the statutes are renumbered 767.813 (title) and (1) to (4).

SECTION 186. 767.455 (5) of the statutes is renumbered 767.813 (5) and amended to read:

767.813 (5) Forms. The summons shall be in substantially one of the following forms:

(a) Mother as petitioner.

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT:

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN, To the Respondent:

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

Date: ____________________________

Time: ____________________________

Room: ____________________________

Judge or Circuit Court Commissioner: ____________________________

Address: ____________________________

2. 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.

3. 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 genetic 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. 99.0 percent.

4. You are also notified that interference with the custody of a child is punishable by a fine of up to $10,000 and imprisonment for up to 5 years. Section 948.31, stats.

5. The ... County Clerk of Circuit Court is an equal opportunity service provider. If you need assistance to access services in the courts or need material in an alternate format, please call ....

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

Signed: ....

G. H., Clerk of Circuit Court

or

Petitioner’s Attorney

State Bar No.: ...

Address: ....

City, State Zip Code: ....

Phone No.: ....

NOTE: Revises the current summons form for a mother−petitioner in a paternity action to reflect changes in the bill making default judgments effective immediately and eliminating the waiver of first appearance in paternity actions. The revised form (and the new forms created in Sec. 243) add a provision indicating that the clerk of circuit court is an equal opportunity service provider.
SECTION 187. 767.455 (5g) of the statutes is repealed.

NOTE: Replaced by the provision created by Sisc. 244 of the bill.

SECTION 188. 767.455 (5r) of the statutes is repealed.

NOTE: The paternity reform committee recommended eliminating the waiver of first appearance in paternity actions, thus requiring a first appearance in every case that comes to court. Only voluntary acknowledgments will not have a first appearance. The committee suggested this change: (1) because the current system is “cumbersome, including extra and unnecessary court appearances”; and (2) to “reduce fraud, which can occur since we do not know with assurance who signed the waiver as most are not notarized”.

This change is made in the bill by repealing current ss. 767.455 (5r), 767.457 (2) and 767.465 (2m) (b), relating to waiver of first appearance.

SECTION 189. 767.455 (5w) of the statutes is repealed.

NOTE: Repeals current s. 767.455 (5w), stats., which specifies that the current statutory summons form does not apply to “a man alleging himself to be the father of the child”. A separate summons form for an alleged father as petitioner is created by Sec. 243 in this bill.

SECTION 190. 767.455 (6) of the statutes is renumbered 767.813 (6) and amended to read:

767.813 (6) DOCUMENT. The summons served on the respondent shall be accompanied by a document, provided without charge by the clerk of court, setting forth the percentage standard established by the department under s. 49.22 (9) and listing the factors which that a court may consider under s. 262.25 767.511 (1m).

SECTION 191. 767.456 of the statutes is renumbered 767.815.

SECTION 192. 767.457 (title) of the statutes is renumbered.

SECTION 193. 767.457 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 767.86 and amended to read:

767.86 Time of first appearance. The first appearance under s. 767.458 767.863 may not be held any sooner than until 30 days after service or receipt of the summons and petition unless the parties agree that the first appearance may be held sooner to an earlier date.

SECTION 194. 767.457 (2) of the statutes is repealed.

NOTE: This SECTION, which repeals s. 767.457 (2), and Secs. 188 and 204 eliminate the waiver of first appearance in paternity cases. See the note to Sec. 188 in this bill.

SECTION 195. 767.458 (title) of the statutes is renumbered 767.863 (title).

SECTION 196. 767.458 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 767.863 (1) and amended to read:

767.863 (1) NOTICE TO PARTIES. At the first court appearance where the respondent is present at a hearing prior to the determination of paternity, the court shall, at least one time at one such hearing, inform the parties of the following: items in s. 767.813 (5g).

SECTION 197. 767.458 (1) (a) to (e) of the statutes are repealed.

NOTE: Repeals s. 767.458 (1) (a) to (e), stats., which set forth the items the court must inform the parties of at the first court appearance where the respondent is present. This provision is no longer necessary because the bill amends current s.
hearing the parties may present and cross-examine witnesses, request genetic tests, and present other evidence relevant to the determination of paternity.

Section 202. 767.463 of the statutes is renumbered 767.855 and amended to read:

767.855 Dismissal if adjudication not in child’s best interest. Except as provided in s. 267.455 767.863 (1m), at any time in an action to establish the paternity of a child, upon motion of a party or guardian ad litem, the court or circuit or supplemental court commissioner under s. 757.675 (2) (g) may, with respect to a man male, refuse to order genetic tests, if genetic tests have not yet been taken, and dismiss the action if the court or circuit or supplemental court commissioner determines that a judicial determination of whether the man male is the father of the child is not in the best interest of the child.

Section 203. 767.465 (title), (1), (1m), (2) and (2m) (title) and (a) of the statutes are renumbered 767.893 (title), (1), (1m), (2) and (2m) (title) and (a), and 767.893 (1m), (2) (a) and (b) and (2m) (a), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.893 (1m) Judgment when mother fails to appear. Notwithstanding sub. (1), a court may enter an order adjudicating the alleged father, or man male alleging that he is the father, to be the father of the child under s. 267.51 767.89 if the mother of the child fails to appear at the first appearance, unless the first appearance is not required under s. 767.457 (2) (d), scheduled court-ordered genetic test, pre-trial hearing, or trial if sufficient evidence exists to establish the man male as the father of the child.

(2) (a) Except as provided in sub. (2m), if a respondent is the alleged father and fails to appear at the first appearance, unless the first appearance is not required under s. 767.457 (2) (d), scheduled court-ordered genetic test, pre-trial 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. 757.675 (2) (g) evidence of good cause for failure to appear or failure to have undergone a court-ordered genetic test.

Note: Amended to delete language requiring a delay in the effective date of default judgment orders in paternity actions. The paternity reform committee recommended that default judgments in paternity cases take effect immediately.

(b) A default judgment may not be entered under par. (a) if there is more than one person alleged in the petition to be the father, unless only any of the following applies:

1. Only one of those persons fails to appear and all of the other male respondents have been excluded as the father.

Note: See Sec. 262 in this bill for subd. 2.

Section 204. 767.465 (2m) (b) of the statutes is repealed.

Note: Repeals s. 767.465 (2m) (b), relating to waiver of first appearance. See the note to Sec. 188 in this bill.

Section 205. 767.465 (2m) (c), (3) and (4) of the statutes are renumbered 767.893 (2m) (c), (3) and (4).

Section 206. 767.466 of the statutes is renumbered 767.895.

Section 207. 767.47 of the statutes is renumbered 767.87, and 767.87 (1) (c), (1m) (d) and (3), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.87 (1) (c) Genetic test results under ss. 49.225, 267.48 767.84, or 885.23.

(1m) (d) Prior to the entry of the judgment under s. 767.54 767.89.

3 Evidence of identified male not under jurisdiction. Except as provided in s. 267.48 767.84 (4), in an action against an alleged father, evidence offered by him with respect to an identified man male who is not subject to the jurisdiction of the court concerning that man male’s sexual intercourse with the mother at or about the presumptive time of conception of the child is admissible in evidence only after the alleged father has undergone genetic tests and made the results available to the court.

Section 208. 767.475 of the statutes is renumbered 767.82, and 767.82 (1) (b), (2m) and (7m), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.82 (1) (b) The court shall appoint a guardian ad litem for the child if s. 267.045 767.407 (1) (a) or (c) applies or if the court has concern that the child’s best interest is not being represented.

(2m) Custody pending court order. If there is no presumption of paternity under s. 891.41 (1) or if paternity is acknowledged under s. 767.805 (1), the mother shall have sole legal custody of the child until the court orders otherwise.

Note: Creates language specifying that if paternity is acknowledged under s. 767.805 (1) (renumbered from s. 767.62 (1)), the mother has sole legal custody of the child until the court orders otherwise. Current law is silent on legal custody where paternity is acknowledged and the court has not ordered otherwise.

(7m) When action has priority. The court shall give priority to an action brought under s. 267.45 whenever 767.80 if the petition under s. 267.45 767.80 (5) inde-
icates that the matter was referred under s. 48.299 (6) (a) or 938.299 (6) (a) by a court assigned to exercise jurisdiction under chs. 48 and 938.

Section 209. 767.477 of the statutes is renumbered 767.85, and 767.85 (2), as renumbered, is amended to read:

767.85 (2) Considerations. Before making any temporary order under sub. (1), the court shall consider those factors that the court is required to consider when granting a final judgment on the same subject matter. If the court 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 shall comply with the requirements of s. 767.25 767.511 (1n).

Section 210. 767.48 (title) of the statutes is renumbered 767.84 (title).

Section 211c. 767.48 (1) (a) of the statutes is renumbered 767.84 (1) (a) and amended to read:

767.84 (1) (a) The court may, and upon request of a party shall, require the child, mother, any male for whom there is probable cause to believe that he had sexual intercourse with the mother during a possible time of the child’s conception, or any male witness who testifies or will testify about his sexual relations with the mother at a possible time of conception to submit to genetic tests. Probable cause of sexual intercourse during a possible time of conception may be established by a sufficient petition or affidavit of the child’s mother or an alleged father, filed with the court, or after an examination under oath of a party or witness, when the court determines that an examination is necessary. The court is not required to order a person who has undergone a genetic test under s. 49.225 to submit to another test under this paragraph unless a party requests additional tests under sub. (2).

Section 212c. 767.48 (1) (b) and (1m) to (7) of the statutes are renumbered 767.84 (1) (b) and (1m) to (7), and 767.84 (4) and (5) (b), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.84 (4) Tests excluding paternity. Refusal to submit to test. Whenever the results of genetic tests exclude genetic test results excluding an alleged father as the father of the child, the evidence shall be conclusive evidence of nonpaternity and the court shall dismiss any paternity action with respect to that alleged father. Whenever the results of genetic tests exclude genetic test results excluding any male witness from possible paternity, the tests shall be conclusive evidence of nonpaternity of the male witness. Testimony relating to sexual intercourse or possible sexual intercourse of the mother with any person excluded as a possible father, as a result of a genetic test, is inadmissible as evidence. If any party refuses refusal of a party to submit to a genetic test, this fact shall be disclosed to the fact finder. Refusal to submit to a genetic test ordered by the court is a contemp of the court for failure to produce evidence under s. 767.47 767.87 (5). If the action was brought by the child’s mother but she refuses to submit herself or the child to genetic tests, the action shall be dismissed.

(5) (b) If 2 or more identical series of genetic tests are performed upon the same person, regardless of whether the tests were ordered under this section or s. 49.225 or 767.458 767.863 (2), the court shall require the person requesting the 2nd or subsequent series of tests to pay for any series in advance, unless the court finds that the person is indigent.

Section 214m. 767.50 of the statutes is renumbered 767.883, and 767.883 (1), as renumbered, is amended to read:

767.883 (1) Two parts. The trial shall be divided into 2 parts—The first part shall deal with the determination of paternity. The 2nd part shall deal with child support, legal custody, periods of physical placement, and related issues. At the first part of the trial, the main issue at the first part shall be whether the alleged or presumed father is or is not the father of the mother’s child, but if the child was born to the mother while she was the lawful wife of a specified man there shall first be determined, as provided in s. 891.39, male the prior issue of whether the husband was not the father of the child shall be determined first, as provided under s. 891.39. The first part of the trial shall be by jury only if the defendant verbally requests a jury trial either at the initial appearance or pretrial hearing or requests a jury trial in writing prior to the pretrial hearing. The court may direct and, if requested by either party, before the introduction of any testimony in the party’s behalf, shall direct the jury, in cases where there is a jury to find a special verdict as to any of the issues specified in this section, except that the court shall make all of the findings enumerated in s. 767.51 767.89 (2) to (4). If the mother is dead, becomes insane, cannot be found within the jurisdiction, or fails to commence or pursue the action, the proceeding does not abate if any of the persons under s. 767.45 767.80 (1) makes a motion to continue. The testimony of the mother taken at the pretrial hearing may in any such case be read in evidence if it is competent, relevant, and material. The issues of child support, custody and visitation, and related issues shall be determined by the court either immediately after the first part of the trial or at a later hearing before the court.

Section 215. Subchapter VI (title) of chapter 767 [precedes 767.501] of the statutes is created to read:

CHAPTER 767
SUBCHAPTER VI
SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE

Section 216. 767.501 (1) (title) and (2) (title) of the statutes are created to read:

767.501 (1) (title) Definitions.

(2) (title) Who may commence; support determination.
SECTION 217. 767.501 (4) of the statutes is created to read:

767.501 (4) LEGAL CUSTODY AND PHYSICAL PLACEMENT. Upon request of a party to an action under this section, the court may make orders concerning the legal custody and physical placement of any minor child of the parties in accordance with s. 767.41.

NOTE: Expressly authorizes a request for and determination of legal custody and physical placement in conjunction with an action to compel support and maintenance under renumbered s. 767.501 (former s. 767.08). See, also, Sec. 96 of this bill.

SECTION 218. 767.51 of the statutes is renumbered 767.89, and 767.89 (2), (3) (b), (c) and (f), (4) (a) (intro.) and (6), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.89 (2) REPORT TO STATE REGISTRAR. The clerk of court or county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) shall file with the state registrar, within 30 days after the entry of a judgment or order determining paternity, a report showing the names, dates of birth, places of the child and the father, the social security numbers of the mother, father, and child, and the maiden name of the mother on a form designated by the state registrar, along with the fee set forth in s. 69.22 (5), which the clerk of court or county child support agency shall collect.

NOTE: This is a technical change. 2001 Wisconsin Act 16 amended s. 69.15 (1) (b), stats., to permit the state registrar to change information on a birth certificate if, among other things, for a paternity action, a clerk of court or county child support agency sends certain information to the state registrar. Prior law referred only to a clerk of court providing such information. The bill amends s. 767.89 (2) [renumbered from s. 767.51 (2), stats.] to incorporate that change, which was inadvertently not made in Act 16.

(3) (b) Orders for the legal custody of and periods of physical placement with the child, determined in accordance with s. 767.24 and 767.41.

(c) An order requiring either or both of the parents to contribute to the support of any child of the parties who is less than 18 years old, or any child of the parties who is less than 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, determined in accordance with s. 767.25.

(f) An order requiring either or both parties to pay or contribute to the costs of the guardian ad litem fees, genetic tests as provided in s. 267.48 and 767.84, and other costs.

(4) (a) (intro.) Subject to par. (b), liability for past support of the child shall be limited to support for the period after the day on which the petition in the action under s. 267.45 and 767.80 is filed, unless a party shows, to the satisfaction of the court, all of the following:

(6) OTHER APPLICABLE PROVISIONS. Sections 267.24, 267.25, 267.26, 267.265, 267.266, 267.267, 267.29, 267.293, 267.30, 267.305, 267.31, 267.32, and 267.325 and 767.41, 767.43, 767.451, 767.57, 767.58, 767.59, and 767.71...

SECTION 219. 767.511 (1) (c), (1g) (title), (1j) (title), (1m) (title), (1n) (title), (2) (title), (3) (title) and (4) (title) of the statutes are created to read:

767.511 (1) (c) In addition to ordering child support for a child under par. (a), assign as a support obligation responsibility for, and direct the manner of payment of, the child’s health care expenses under s. 767.513.

NOTE: Health care expenses for a child are now dealt with in a section separate from the general child support section. (This bill renumbers current s. 767.25 (4m) and makes it a separate section; see Sec. 104 of the bill.) The above provision, which is located in the general child support section (renumbered s. 767.511), is intended to clarify that an order regarding health care expenses is to be considered a support obligation. In addition, it is intended to clarify that statutory cross-references to child support under s. 767.511 include a child’s health care expenses under s. 767.513.

(1g) (title) CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION.

(1j) (title) PERCENTAGE STANDARD GENERALLY REQUIRED.

(1m) (title) DEVIATION FROM STANDARD: FACTORS.

(1n) (title) DEVIATION FROM STANDARD: RECORD.

(2) (title) SEPARATE FUND OR TRUST.

(3) (title) EFFECT OF PHYSICAL PLACEMENT VIOLATION.

(4) (title) AGE OF CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR SUPPORT.

SECTION 220. 767.513 (title) CHILD HEALTH CARE EXPENSES.

(4) (title) HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN; EMPLOYER OBLIGATION.

(5) (title) RECOVERY BY STATE OF 3RD PARTY PAYMENTS.

SECTION 221. 767.52 of the statutes is renumbered 767.83, and 767.83 (1), (2m) and (3), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.83 (1) GENERALLY. At the pretrial hearing, at the trial, and in any further proceedings in any paternity action, any party may be represented by counsel. If the male respondent is indigent and the state is the petitioner under s. 767.45 and 767.80 (1) (g), the petitioner is represented by a government attorney as provided in s. 767.45 and 767.80 (6), or the action is commenced on behalf of the child by an attorney appointed under s. 267.045 and 767.407 (1) (c), counsel shall be appointed for the respondent as provided in ch. 977, and subject to the limitations under sub. (2m), unless the respondent knowingly and voluntarily waives the appointment of counsel.

(2m) WHEN APPOINTED REPRESENTATION PROVIDED. Representation by an attorney appointed under sub. (1) shall be provided only after the results of any genetic tests have been completed and only if all of the results fail to show that the alleged father is excluded and fail to give
rise to the rebuttable presumption under s. 767.84 (1m) that the alleged father is the father of the child.

(3) Appearance by State's Attorney Not Affected. This section does not prevent an attorney responsible for support enforcement under s. 59.53 (6) (a) or any other attorney employed under s. 49.22 or 59.53 (5) from appearing in any paternity action as provided under s. 767.45 767.80 (6).

SECTION 222. 767.53 of the statutes is renumbered 767.853, and 767.853 767.853 (3) intro., as renumbered, is amended to read:

767.853 (3) Past Proceedings. Subject to s. 767.19 767.13, a record of a past proceeding is open to public inspection if all of the following apply:

SECTION 223. 767.55 (title), (2) (title) and (3) (title) of the statutes are created to read:


(2) (title) Noncustodial parent.

(3) (title) Absent parent.

SECTION 224. 767.553 (1) (title), (4) (title) and (5) (title) of the statutes are created to read:

767.553 (1) (title) When adjustment may be ordered.

(4) (title) Implementation; when effective.

(5) (title) Revision or Remedial Sanctions.

SECTION 225. 767.57 (1) (title), (1e) (title) and (4) (title) of the statutes are created to read:

767.57 (1) (title) Payment to Department.

(1e) (title) Receiving and Disbursing Fee.

(4) (title) Procedure for Certain Child Recipients.

SECTION 226. 767.58 (2) (title) of the statutes is created to read:

767.58 (2) (title) Information for Child Support Agency.

SECTION 227. 767.59 (1k) of the statutes is created to read:

767.59 (1k) Maintenance: change in cost of living. In an action under this section to revise maintenance payments, a substantial change in the cost of living for either party or as measured by the federal bureau of labor statistics may be sufficient to support a revision of the amount of maintenance, except that a change in an obligor’s cost of living is not by itself sufficient if payments are expressed as a percentage of income.

NOTE: Restates the last sentence of current s. 767.32 (1)

(a).

SECTION 228. 767.59 (2) (title) of the statutes is created to read:

767.59 (2) (title) Percentage Standard Required; Exceptions.

SECTION 229. 767.60 of the statutes is renumbered 767.803 and amended to read:

767.803 Determination of marital children. In any case where if the father and mother of any a nonmarital child shall enter into a lawful marriage or a marriage which appears and they believe is lawful, except where the parental rights of the mother were terminated prior thereto that before either of these circumstances, the child shall thereby become becomes a marital child, shall be entitled to a change in birth certificate under s. 69.15 (3) (b), and shall enjoy all of the rights and privileges of a marital child as if he or she had been born during the marriage of the parents and this. This section shall be taken to apply applies to all cases prior to before, on, or after its effective date, as well as those subsequent thereto but no estate already vested shall be divested by this section and ss. 765.05 to 765.24 and 852.05. The issue children of all marriages declared void under the law shall, nevertheless, be are nevertheless marital issue children.

SECTION 230. Subchapter VII (title) of chapter 767 [precedes 767.61] of the statutes is created to read:

CHAPTER 767
SUBCHAPTER VII
PROPERTY DIVISION

SECTION 231. 767.61 (2) (title) and (3) (title) of the statutes are created to read:

767.61 (2) (title) Property Subject to Division.

(3) (title) Presumption of Equal Division.

SECTION 232. 767.61 (4), (5) and (6) of the statutes are created to read:

767.61 (4) Separate Fund or Trust Option. In dividing the property of the parties under this section, the court may protect and promote the best interests of a child of the parties described under s. 767.511 (4) by setting aside a portion of the property in a separate fund or trust for the support, maintenance, education, and general welfare of the child.

(5) Related Provisions of Judgment. In a judgment described under sub. (1), the court shall do all of the following:

(a) Direct that title to the property of the parties be transferred as necessary, in accordance with the division of property set forth in the judgment.

(b) Include all of the following in the judgment:

1. Notification that it may be necessary for the parties to take additional actions in order to transfer interests in their property in accordance with the division of property set forth in the judgment, including such interests as interests in real property, interests in retirement benefits, and contractual interests.

2. Notification that the judgment does not necessarily affect the ability of a creditor to proceed against a party or against that party’s property even though the party is not responsible for the debt under the terms of the judgment.

3. Notification that an instrument executed by a party before the judgment naming the other party as a beneficiary is not necessarily affected by the judgment and it
may be necessary to revise the instrument if a change in beneficiary is desired.

(6) **RECORDING JUDGMENT AFFECTING REAL PROPERTY SUFFICIENT.** A certified copy of the portion of the judgment affecting title to real property, or a deed consistent with the judgment, shall be recorded in the office of the register of deeds of the county in which the real property is located.

NOTE: 1. Subsection (4) restates the last sentence of current s. 767.255 (1), stats. See Sct. 109 of this bill. The current provision only refers to a "minor child". However, the obligation for child support extends to 18 year olds who are in high school or its equivalent (current s. 767.25 (4), stats.). Therefore, the separate trust or fund option is extended to cover that situation as well as minor children.

2. Subsection (5) (a) is intended to replace current language in s. 767.255 (1), stats., requiring the court when dividing property to "divest and transfer the title of any such property accordingly". The revised language, more accurately reflecting current practice, requires the court to direct that title to be transferred as necessary, in accordance with the property division.

3. Subsection (5) (b) is new. It is intended to alert parties that additional action on their part may be necessary in order to implement the provisions of the judgment, that a property division judgment generally is not binding on creditors, and that additional action may be necessary to change prior beneficiary designations.

4. Subsection (6) clarifies that a deed consistent with the judgment may be recorded in lieu of the judgment. It replaces the following provision in current s. 767.255 (1), stats.: "A certified copy of the portion of the judgment that affects title to real estate shall be recorded in the office of the register of deeds of the county in which the lands so affected are situated."

**SECTION 233.** 767.62 of the statutes is renumbered 767.805, and 767.805 (2) (b), (3) (b), (4) (intro.), (a) and (b), (5) (b) and (6) (b), as renumbered, are amended to read:

767.805 (2) (b) If a statement acknowledging paternity is timely rescinded as provided in s. 69.15 (3m), a court or circuit court commissioner may not enter an order specified in sub. (4) with respect to the **man male** who signed the statement as the father of the child unless the **man male** is adjudicated the child’s father using the procedures set forth in ss. 767.45 to 767.66 this subchapter, except for this section.

(3) (b) Except as provided in s. 767.45 767.407, in an action specified in par. (a) the court or 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.

(4) **ORDERS WHEN PATERNITY ACKNOWLEDGED.** (intro.) 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 circuit court commissioner shall make an order that contains all of the following provisions:

(a) Orders for the legal custody of and periods of physical placement with the child, determined in accordance with s. 767.24 767.41.

(b) An order requiring either or both of the parents to contribute to the support of any child of the parties who is less than 18 years old, or any child of the parties who is less than 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, determined in accordance with s. 767.25 767.511.

(5) (b) If a court in a proceeding under par. (a) determines that the **man male** is not the father of the child, the court shall vacate any order entered under sub. (4) with respect to the **man male**. The court or the county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) shall notify the state registrar, in the manner provided in s. 69.15 (1) (b), to remove the **man male**’s name as the father of the child from the child’s birth certificate. No paternity action may thereafter be brought against the **man male** with respect to the child.

(6) (b) Parties who signed and filed a statement acknowledging paternity before April 1, 1998, may sign and file a new statement that fulfills the requirements under par. (a). Such a **new** statement supersedes any statement previously filed with the state registrar and has the effects specified in this section.

**SECTION 234.** Subchapter VIII (title) of chapter 767 [precedes 767.70] of the statutes is created to read:

**CHAPTER 767**
**SUBCHAPTER VIII**
**ENFORCEMENT**

**SECTION 235.** 767.71 of the statutes is created to read:

**767.71 Reconciling percentage—expressed support orders.** (1) **REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION.** (a) In this section, “support order” means 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 for child support under this chapter.

(b) If a support order is or has been expressed as a percentage of parental income, a party, 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. 767.205 (2) (a), may request a determination under this section of the amount due under the order. The court may determine the amount due and, if ordered by the court, the county child support agency shall reconcile the amount due with payments actually made to determine if an arrearage exists.

(2) **NOTICE AND AFFIDAVIT.** (a) The party seeking the determination under this section shall file with the court a notice of reconciliation of account and a supporting affidavit. No later than 3 business days after filing, the party seeking the determination shall serve the notice and
affidavit on all other parties, including the child support agency if the state is a real party in interest, by sending the notice and affidavit by regular mail to the last−known address provided under s. 767.58 (2), pursuant to s. 767.70.

(b) The notice of reconciliation of account shall include all of the following:

1. The period of time for which the reconciliation is sought.
2. A statement that, unless a party requests a hearing no later than 20 business days after the date of the notice, the court may enter an order determining the amount due under the percentage−expressed order and may enter a repayment order that applies if the reconciliation of the amount due with payments made results in an arrearage.
3. The mailing address to which the request for a hearing must be delivered or mailed to schedule a hearing under sub. (3).

(c) The supporting affidavit shall state the facts supporting a reasonable basis for determining the payer’s income during the period of time for which the reconciliation is sought.

(3) If hearing held. (a) Within 10 business days after receiving a timely request for a hearing, the court shall set the matter for hearing. The court shall send notice of the date, time, and location of the hearing to the parties by regular mail at their last−known addresses.

(b) At the hearing, the court may establish the appropriate charge under the percentage order by determining the amount of the payer’s income that is subject to the percentage−expressed order during the period for which reconciliation is sought and applying the ordered percentage to that amount. The court may enter a repayment order that becomes effective if the reconciliation of the amount due with payments made results in an arrearage.

(4) If no hearing. If no party requests a hearing, the court shall review the supporting affidavit within 60 days of filing. If the court finds that the affidavit contains a reasonable basis for determining the payer’s income during the period for which reconciliation is sought, the court may enter an order determining the amount due under the percentage−expressed order and may enter a repayment order that becomes effective if the reconciliation of the amount due with payments made results in an arrearage. The court shall send the order to the parties by regular mail to their last−known addresses.

(5) Enforcement. Any arrearage that exists as a result of the reconciliation of the amount due with payments made may be enforced under ch. 49 or this chapter.

NOTE: Recreates current s. 767.293:
(a) For improved clarity.
(b) To relieve courts and court commissioners from determining the amount of any arrearage that may exist. Instead, that determination is made by the county child support agency, which is in a better position to make the often difficult calculations necessary to reconcile charges against payments made.

SECTION 236. 767.73 (1) (title), (4) (title) and (5) (title) of the statutes are created to read:

767.73 (1) (title) AUTHORITY TO SUSPEND.

(4) (title) APPLICATION TO PAST ARREARAGES.

(5) (title) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER REMEDIES.

SECTION 237. 767.75 (title), (2m) (title), (3m) (title), (6m) (title), (7) (title) and (7m) (title) of the statutes are created to read:

767.75 (title) Assignment of income for payment obligations.

(2m) (title) UNPAID RECEIVING AND DISBURSING FEES; ASSIGNMENT.

(3m) (title) ASSIGNMENT OF UNEMPLOYMENT COM-

PENSATION BENEFITS.

(6m) (title) CONVERSION OF CERTAIN SUPPORT ORDERS TO FIXED AMOUNT.

(7) (title) RECEIPT OF MORE THAN ONE NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENT.

(7m) (title) CHANGE IN PAYROLL PERIOD.

SECTION 238. 767.76 (2) (title), (3) (title), (4) (title) and (6) (title) of the statutes are created to read:

767.76 (2) (title) TRANSFER OF FUNDS BY FINANCIAL

INSTITUTIONS.

(3) (title) PRIORITY OF TRANSFER AUTHORIZATION.

(4) (title) REVOCATION OF TRANSFER AUTHORIZATION.

(6) (title) LIABILITY IMMUNITY.

SECTION 239. 767.77 (4) (title) of the statutes is created to read:

767.77 (4) (title) INFORMATION ON BOAT OWNERSHIP.

SECTION 240. Subchapter IX of chapter 767 [precedes 767.80] of the statutes is created to read:

CHAPTER 767

SUBCHAPTER IX

Paternity

SECTION 241. 767.80 (2) (title), (3) (title), (4) (title), (5) (title), (6) (title) and (6r) (title) of the statutes are created to read:

767.80 (2) (title) CERTAIN AGREEMENTS NOT A BAR TO ACTION.

(3) (title) STAY IF ACTION BEFORE BIRTH.

(4) (title) CHILD AS PARTY.

(5) (title) PETITION.

(6) (title) WHICH ATTORNEY REPRESENTS STATE.

(6r) (title) RESPONSIBILITIES OF ATTORNEY UPON REFERRAL.

SECTION 242. 767.805 (1m) of the statutes is created to read:

767.805 (1m) MINOR PARENT MAY NOT SIGN. A minor

may not sign a statement acknowledging paternity.

NOTE: Prohibits minor parents from signing voluntary paternity acknowledgments. Based on a recommendation of the paternity reform committee. The reform committee noted: (1) minors need the protection of a guardian ad litem to explain their rights and responsibilities; and (2) the parents of the minor do not necessarily have the same interests as the minor and therefore may not be able to provide such protection.
SECTION 243. 767.813 (5) (b) and (c) of the statutes are created to read:
767.813 (5) (b) Alleged father as petitioner.
767.813 (5) (c) Nonparent as petitioner.

In re the Paternity of A. B.
C. D. (Alleged Father−Petitioner)
Address
City, State Zip
File No. ...


THE STATE OF WISCONSIN, To the Respondent:
1. You have been sued. The petitioner .... claims that he may be 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 Circuit Court Commissioner: ........
   Address: ...........................

2. If you do not appear, the court will enter a default judgment finding the petitioner .... to be the father. If you plan to be represented by an attorney, you should contact the attorney prior to the court appearance listed above.

3. The .... County Clerk of Circuit Court is an equal opportunity service provider. If you need assistance to access services in the court or need material in an alternate format, please call .... .

Dated: ...... .... (year)
Signed:..... .....  

G. H., Clerk of Circuit Court
or
Petitioner’s Attorney
State Bar No.: ....
Address: ....
City, State Zip Code: ....
Phone No.: ....

(c) Nonparent as petitioner.

In re the Paternity of A. B.
C. D. (Nonparent−Petitioner)
Address
City, State Zip
File No. ...

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN, To the Respondent:
1. You have been sued. The petitioner .... claims that .... is the mother and .... may be 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 Circuit Court Commissioner: ........
   Address: ...........................

2. If you do not appear, the court may enter a default judgment finding .... to be the father. If you plan to be represented by an attorney, you should contact
   the attorney prior to the court appearance listed above. If you are alleged to be the father and you are unable to afford an attorney, the court will appoint one for you only upon genetic tests showing that you are not excluded as the father and the probability of your being the father is less than 99.0 percent.

3. The .... County Clerk of Circuit Court is an equal opportunity service provider. If you need assistance to access services in the court or need material in an alternate format, please call .... .

Dated: ...... .... (year)
Signed:..... .....  

G. H., Clerk of Circuit Court
or
Petitioner’s Attorney
State Bar No.: ....
Address: ....
NOTICE TO PARTIES

1. You are a party to a petition for paternity. A judgment of paternity legally designates the child in the case to be a child of the man found to be the father. It creates a legally recognized parent–child relationship between the man and the child. It creates the right of inheritance for the child, and obligates the man to support the child until the child reaches the age of 18, or the age of 19 if the child is enrolled full–time in high school or its equivalent. The failure by either parent to pay court–ordered support is punishable by imprisonment as a contempt of court or as a criminal violation.

2. A party to a paternity case has the right to be represented by an attorney. If you are unable to afford an attorney and you are a man who is named as the possible father of a child in a paternity case, the court will appoint an attorney for you only if the results of one or more genetic tests show that you are not excluded as the father and that the statistical probability of your being the father is less than 99.0 percent. In order to determine whether you are entitled to have an attorney appointed for you, you may call the following telephone number ....

3. The petitioner in this case has the burden of proving by a clear and satisfactory preponderance of the evidence whether the man named as the possible father is the father. However, if genetic tests show that the man named is not excluded as the father, and show that the statistical probability that the man is the father is 99.0 percent or higher, that man is rebuttably presumed to be the father.

4. You may request genetic tests which will indicate the probability that the man named as the possible father is or is not the father of the child. The court will order genetic tests on a request by you, the state, or any other party. Any person who refuses to take court–ordered genetic tests may be punished for contempt of court.

5. The following defenses are available in a paternity case:
   (a) The man named as a possible father of the child may claim that he was sterile or impotent at the time of conception.
   (b) The mother may claim that she, or the man named as a possible father may claim that he, did not have sexual intercourse with the other party during the conception period (generally the period 8 to 10 months before the birth of the child).
   (c) The mother or the man named as a possible father may claim that another man had sexual intercourse with the mother during the conception period.

6. You have the right to request a jury trial on the issue of whether the named man is the father.

7. If you fail to appear at any stage of the proceeding, including a scheduled court–ordered genetic test, the court may enter a default judgment finding the man claimed to be the father as the father.

8. You must keep the clerk of court and child support agency informed of your current address at all times.

NOTE: Replaces the current statutory form for “Notice to Respondent” in a paternity action with a general “Notice to Parties” statutory form. In addition to making the notice form a general form for all parties, this SECTION revises the form to:

1. Replace the current phrase indicating that a judgment of paternity “grants parental rights to that man” with a statement that the judgment “creates a legally recognized parent–child relationship between the man and the child”.
2. Revise the phrase “failure to pay child support” in item 6 in the Notice to read “failure by either parent to pay court–ordered support”.
3. Clarify that the right to request a jury trial in item 6 in the Notice refers to a jury trial “on the issue of whether the named man is the father”.
4. Revise item 7 in the Notice to delete statements relating to the effective date of a default judgment (under the bill, a default judgment takes effect immediately) and waiver of first appearance (waiver of first appearance provisions are repealed in the bill).
5. Specify that the party must keep the child support agency, as well as the clerk of court (current law), informed of current address.

SECTION 245. 767.814 of the statutes is created to read:

767.814 Names on pleadings after paternity determined. After paternity is determined by the court in an action or proceeding under this subchapter, any papers filed in, and any records of, the court relating to the action or proceeding may identify the parties by name instead of by initials.

NOTE: Permits the use of names rather than initials on pleadings and other court findings and court records once paternity is determined. Based on a recommendation of the paternity reform committee.

SECTION 246. 767.815 (1) (title) and (2) (title) of the statutes are created to read:

767.815 (1) (title) Good cause.
(2) (title) Reasonable grounds; due diligence.

SECTION 247. 767.82 (1) (title), (2) (title), (3) (title), (4) (title), (5) (title), (6) (title), (7) (title) and (8) (title) of the statutes are created to read:

767.82 (1) (title) Appointment of guardian ad litem.
(2) (title) Presumption.
(3) (title) Time of conception; evidence.
(4) (title) Discovery.
(5) (title) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.
(6) (title) ARREST.
(7) (title) APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEE OR GUARDIAN.
(8) (title) PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO OTHER MATTERS IN ACTION.

**SECTION 248.** 767.83 (2) (title) of the statutes is created to read:

767.83 (2) (title) EXTENT OF APPOINTED ATTORNEYS REPRESENTATION.

**SECTION 249.** 767.84 (1) (title) of the statutes is created to read:

767.84 (1) (title) WHEN TEST ORDERED; REPORT.

**SECTION 251.** 767.84 (1m) (title), (2) (title), (3) (title), (5) (title), (6) (title) and (7) (title) of the statutes are created to read:

767.84 (1m) (title) REBUTTABLE PRESUMPTION.
(2) (title) INDEPENDENT TESTS.
(3) (title) NUMBER AND QUALIFICATIONS OF EXPERTS.
(5) (title) FEES AND COSTS.
(6) (title) CALLING CERTAIN WITNESSES; NOTICE.
(7) (title) NOTICE OF RIGHT TO TESTS.

**SECTION 252.** 767.85 (1) (title) of the statutes is created to read:

767.85 (1) (title) WHEN REQUIRED.

**SECTION 253.** 767.853 (1) (title) and (2) (title) of the statutes are created to read:

767.853 (1) (title) PENDING PROCEEDING.
(2) (title) INFORMATION TO DEPARTMENT.

**SECTION 254.** 767.863 (3) (title) of the statutes is created to read:

767.863 (3) (title) ORDERS IF STATEMENT ON FILE.

**SECTION 255.** 767.865 (1) (title) of the statutes is created to read:

767.865 (1) (title) WHO MAY APPEAR.

**SECTION 256.** 767.865 (1) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

767.865 (1) (b) If the court determines that it is appropriate, the court may appoint a guardian ad litem for the deceased respondent for purposes of par. (a). Section 767.407 (3) and (5) applies to the guardian ad litem. The guardian ad litem shall represent the interests of the deceased respondent. The guardian ad litem shall be compensated at a rate that the court determines is reasonable. The court shall order the compensation to be paid from the deceased respondent’s estate. If the moneys in the estate are not sufficient to pay all or part of the compensation, the court may direct that the county of venue pay the compensation. If the court orders a county to pay the compensation of the guardian ad litem, the amount ordered may not exceed the compensation paid to private attorneys under s. 977.08 (4m) (b).

**NOTE:** See the note to Sec. 257 of this bill.

**SECTION 257.** 767.865 (2) of the statutes is created to read:

767.865 (2) GENETIC TESTS. If genetic material is available, without undue hardship, from a deceased respondent or a relative of the deceased respondent in an action for paternity, genetic tests shall be administered in accordance with s. 767.84. There is a rebuttable presumption that exhumation of the deceased respondent’s body to obtain the genetic material for testing is an undue hardship under this subsection.

**NOTE:** Sections 256 and 257 of this bill are based on a recommendation of the paternity reform committee.

1. **SECTION 256** permits the appointment of a guardian ad litem to represent a deceased respondent when there is no personal representative and requires the guardian ad litem to receive service of the summons and petition. The reform committee’s recommendation to appoint a guardian ad litem for “a deceased respondent who is the alleged father” is expanded to include any deceased respondent. See, also, S.J.C. 200 of this bill.

2. **SECTION 257** requires genetic tests if genetic material is available, without undue hardship, from the deceased or his relatives. Exhumation is rebuttably presumed an undue hardship.

**SECTION 258.** 767.87 (1) (title), (1m) (title), (2) (title), (2m) (title), (4) (title), (5) (title), (6) (title), (7) (title), (8) (title), (9) (title), (10) (title) and (11) (title) of the statutes are created to read:

767.87 (1) (title) GENERALLY.
(1m) (title) BIRTH RECORD REQUIRED.
(2) (title) ADMISSIBILITY OF SEXUAL RELATIONS BY MOTHER.
(2m) (title) ADMISSIBILITY OF CERTAIN MEDICAL AND GENETIC INFORMATION.
(4) (title) IMMUNITY.
(5) (title) REFUSAL TO TESTIFY OR PRODUCE EVIDENCE.
(6) (title) WHEN MOTHER NOT COMPELLED TO TESTIFY.
(7) (title) CERTAIN TESTIMONY OF PHYSICIAN NOT PRIVILEGED.
(8) (title) BURDEN OF PROOF.
(9) (title) ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION; NATURAL FATHER.
(10) (title) RECORD OF MOTHER’S TESTIMONY ADMISSIBLE.
(11) (title) RELATED COSTS ADMISSIBLE.

**SECTION 259.** 767.88 (2) (title), (3) (title), (4) (title), (5) (title) and (6) (title) of the statutes are created to read:

767.88 (2) (title) COURT EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATION.
(3) (title) ACCEPTANCE OF RECOMMENDATION; JUDGMENT.
(4) (title) RECOMMENDATION REFUSED AND NO TESTS TAKEN.
(5) (title) FINAL RECOMMENDATION NOT ACCEPTED; TRIAL.
(6) (title) TERMINATION OF INFORMAL HEARING.

**SECTION 260.** 767.883 (2) (title) of the statutes is created to read:

767.883 (2) (title) JURY SIZE; VERDICT.

**SECTION 261.** 767.89 (1) (title), (3) (title), (3m) (title), (4) (title) and (7) (title) of the statutes are created to read:

767.89 (1) (title) EFFECT OF JUDGMENT OR ORDER.
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(3) (title) CONTENT OF JUDGMENT OR ORDER.
(3m) (title) CHANGE OF CHILD’S NAME.
(4) (title) LIABILITY FOR PAST SUPPORT.
(7) (title) PREPARATION OF FINAL PAPERS.

SECTION 262. 767.893 (2) (b) 2. of the statutes is created to read:
767.893 (2) (b) 2. The alleged father who fails to appear has had genetic tests under s. 49.225 or 767.84 showing that the alleged father is not excluded and that the statistical probability of the alleged father's parentage is 99.0 percent or higher.

NOTE: Authorizes the court to enter a default judgment when an alleged father has a genetic test result of 99% or higher, even though there may be another untested alleged father. Based on a recommendation of the paternity reform committee.

SECTION 263. 808.075 (4) (d) 13. of the statutes is amended to read:
808.075 (4) (d) 13. Determination of arrearages under s. 767.293 charges and issuance of repayment orders under s. 767.71.

SECTION 264. 814.615 (1) (a) (intro.) and (2) of the statutes are amended to read:
814.615 (1) (a) (intro.) Except as provided under sub. (2), for family court counseling services provided under s. 767.11 767.405 a county shall collect the following fees:
(2) In lieu of the fee under sub. (1) (a) 2. or 3., a county may establish a fee schedule to recover its reasonable costs of providing family court counseling services under s. 767.11 767.405. A fee schedule established under this subsection may apply in lieu of the fee under sub. (1) (a) 2. or 3. or both, and shall require no fee for the first mediation session conducted upon referral under s. 767.11 767.405 (5); provide for payment for any other services based on the parties' ability to pay; and take into account the fees the county collects under s. 814.61 (1) (b) and (7) (b). Fees shall be based on services actually provided. The county may not collect a single fee applicable without regard to the number of sessions or services provided. Subject to sub. (3), the county shall provide family court counseling services to the parties even if both parties are unable to pay.

SECTION 265. Cross-reference changes. In the sections of the statutes listed in Column A, the cross-references shown in Column B are changed to the cross-references shown in column C:

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<td>767.80 (5) (c) and (6r)</td>
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</table>
### Section 266. Initial applicability.

1. The treatment of section 767.027 of the statutes first applies to actions to modify a judgment or order with respect to child support that are commenced on the effective date of this subsection.

2. The treatment of sections 767.085 (1) and 767.215 (5) of the statutes first applies to petitions that are filed on the effective date of this subsection.

3. The treatment of section 767.11 (12) of the statutes first applies to written mediation agreements that are certified by the mediator on the effective date of this subsection.

4. The treatment of section 767.14 of the statutes first applies to actions affecting the family that are commenced on the effective date of this subsection.

5. The treatment of section 767.145 (2) of the statutes first applies to motions for extension of time for service that are made on the effective date of this subsection.

6. The treatment of sections 767.293 and 767.71 of the statutes first applies to determinations sought by notices of reconciliation of account that are filed on the effective date of this subsection.

7. The treatment of section 767.265 (2h) and (2m) (b) of the statutes first applies to notices of assignment that are sent on the effective date of this subsection.

8. The treatment of section 767.27 (1) of the statutes first applies to actions affecting the family that are commenced on the effective date of this subsection.

9. The treatment of sections 767.293 and 767.71 of the statutes first applies to determinations sought by notices of reconciliation of account that are filed on the effective date of this subsection.

9m. The treatment of section 767.295 (2) (c) of the statutes first applies to child support orders that are granted on the effective date of this subsection.

10. The treatment of section 767.37 (1) (a) and (c) and (3) of the statutes first applies to judgments that are granted on the effective date of this subsection.

11. The treatment of sections 767.455 (5), (5g), and (5r), 767.457 (2), 767.459, 767.465 (2) (a) and (b) and

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</table>
The statutes first applies to paternity actions that are commenced on the effective date of this subsection.

(12) The treatment of section 767.501 (4) of the statutes first applies to actions to compel support or maintenance that are commenced on the effective date of this subsection.

(13) The treatment of section 767.61 (4), and (5) of the statutes first applies to judgments granted on the effective date of this subsection.

(14) The treatment of section 767.805 (1m) of the statutes first applies to statements acknowledging paternity that are filed on the effective date of this subsection.

(15) The treatment of section 767.814 of the statutes first applies to actions or proceedings under subchapter IX of chapter 767 of the statutes in which paternity is determined on the effective date of this subsection.

**SECTION 267. Effective date.**

(1) This act takes effect on January 1, 2007.

**NOTE:** The following list shows the general treatment of provisions of ch. 767 by this bill. The left-hand column (“current section”) lists the current provisions of ch. 767. The right-hand column (“treatment”) shows the general treatment of each provision by this bill.

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<td>767.254</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.55 (4).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Section</td>
<td>Action</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.255</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.61; reorganized and substantively revised.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.26</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.56.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.261</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.531.</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.262</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.241.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.263</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.58; sub. (1) clarified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.265 (1)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.75 (1) (b) [and (1f)].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.265 (1m) to (7m)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.75 (1m) to (7m); (2h) and (2m) clarified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.265 (8)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.75 (1) (intro.).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.266</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.375.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.267</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.76.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.27 (1) to (2)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.127 (1) to (2); sub. (1) substantively revised.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.27 (2m)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.54.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.27 (3) to (5)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.127 (3) to (5).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.275</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.63.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.28</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.385.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.29 (1) (a) to (c)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.57 (1) (a) to (c).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.29 (1) (d) and (dm)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.57 (1e) (a) and (b).</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.29 (1) (e)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.57 (1h).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.29 (1) (f)</td>
<td>Repealed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.29 (1m) to (4)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.57 (1m) to (4).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.293</td>
<td>Repealed. Recreated as s. 767.71 and substantively revised.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.295 (1) and (2) (a)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.55 (2) (a) and (am).</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.295 (2) (b) and (c)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.55 (2) (b) and (c).</td>
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<td>767.30</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.77.</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.303</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.73.</td>
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<td>767.305</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.78.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.31</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.57 (5); substantively revised.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.32</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.59. Internally reorganized by subdividing and consolidating.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.325 (1) to (8)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.451 (1) to (8); sub. (1) (a) (intro.) clarified.</td>
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<td>767.325 (9)</td>
<td>Repealed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.327 (1) to (6)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.481 (1) to (6).</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.327 (7)</td>
<td>Repealed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.329</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.461; clarified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.33</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.553.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.37 (1) (a)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.251; substantively revised.</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.37 (1) (c)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.36; substantively revised.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.37 (2)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.35 (6); portion repealed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.37 (3)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.35 (3); clarified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.38</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.35 (7).</td>
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<td>Description</td>
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<td>767.39 (1)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.273; incorporates substance of current sub. (2).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.39 (2)</td>
<td>Repealed; substance included in renumbered s. 767.273.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.40</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 785.07.</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.42</td>
<td>Repealed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.45</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.80.</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.455 (1) to (4)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.813 (1) to (4).</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.455 (5)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.813 (5); expanded.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.455 (5g)</td>
<td>Repealed; replaced by new s. 767.813 (5g).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.455 (5r)</td>
<td>Repealed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.455 (6)</td>
<td>Repealed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.456</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.815.</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.457 (1)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.86.</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.457 (2)</td>
<td>Repealed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.458</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.863 (1); sub. (1) (intro.) clarified; sub. (1) (a) to (e) repealed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.458 (1m) to (3)</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.863 (1m) to (3).</td>
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<td>767.459</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.865 (1) (a).</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.46</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.88.</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.463</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.855.</td>
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<td>767.465</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.893; sub. (2) substantively revised; sub. (2m) repealed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.466</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.895.</td>
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<td>767.47</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.87.</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.475</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.82; sub. (2m) clarified.</td>
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<td>767.477</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.85.</td>
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<td>767.48</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.84; sub. (1) (a) 1. substantively revised.</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.50</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.883.</td>
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<td>767.51</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.89.</td>
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<td>767.52</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.83.</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.53</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.853.</td>
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<tr>
<td>767.60</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.803.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767.62</td>
<td>Renumbered s. 767.805; substantively revised.</td>
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