

2

State of Misconsin 2019 - 2020 LEGISLATURE

LRB-0662/1 SWB:klm&kjf

2019 BILL

1 AN ACT to create 767.135 of the statutes; relating to: judicial notice of certain

court records relating to domestic violence or child abuse.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill is explained in the NOTES provided by the Joint Legislative Council in the bill.

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

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PREFATORY NOTE: This bill was prepared for the Joint Legislative Council's Study Committee on Child Placement and Support. The bill allows a court in a family law action to take judicial notice of certain records relating to domestic violence.

Under current law, certain aspects of family law proceedings are modified if a court finds that a parent has engaged in a pattern or serious incident of interspousal battery or domestic abuse. If a guardian ad litem is appointed for a child in an action affecting the family, the guardian ad litem is required to investigate whether there is evidence that either parent engaged in interspousal battery or domestic abuse and must report the results of the investigation to the court.

The bill specifies that in a family law action where the parties have a minor child, a court may take judicial notice of records available in the electronic consolidated court automation programs, commonly referred to as CCAP, for certain convictions and restraining orders between the parties.

The records of which a court may take judicial notice are:

• A conviction of a parent for a crime that is subject to the statutory domestic abuse surcharge and is committed against the other parent. The crimes

BILL

1

 $\mathbf{2}$

3

4

 $\mathbf{5}$

6

 $\mathbf{7}$

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

include battery, stalking, sexual assault, damage to property, disorderly conduct, and other specified crimes.A conviction of a parent for a crime against a child that is committed against a child of the parties.
 An injunction issued against a parent if the injunction was requested by the other parent, for a domestic abuse or harassment restraining order.
SECTION 1. 767.135 of the statutes is created to read:
767.135 Judicial notice. (1) In this section, "Wisconsin Circuit Court Access
Internet site" means the Internet site of the consolidated court automation
programs, which is the statewide electronic circuit court case management system
established under s. 758.19 (4) and maintained by the director of state courts, that
provides information regarding the cases filed in the circuit courts.
(2) In an action affecting the family in which the parties have a minor child,
the court assigned to exercise jurisdiction in the action may take judicial notice of any
court record available on the Wisconsin Circuit Court Access Internet site relating
to any of the following:
(a) A conviction of a party for a crime committed against the other party that
is subject to the domestic abuse surcharge under s. 973.055 (1).
(b) A conviction of a party for a crime committed against a child of the parties
under ch. 948.
(c) An injunction issued against a party under s. 813.12 or 813.125, if the
injunction was requested by the other party.
(END)