

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Close, Dingfelder, Kruse, Roblan, Prozanski
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Bill Taylor, Counsel
Meeting Dates:	5/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows a court to award attorney fees where one party in a domestic relations matter is required to maintain life insurance on his or her life in order to guarantee payment of spousal or child support and the party fails to do so. Clarifies that a court may order one parent to maintain any existing life insurance policies if the parent owes child support, regardless of whether the parents were legally married.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Domestic partnerships treated similarly to married persons for the purposes of child support

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Currently, there are not specific statutory provisions allowing for attorney fees when a person subject to a court order to pay child or spousal support fails to carry life insurance on his or her life as a guarantee for payment of his or her obligation should the person die. Also, there are not statutory provisions allowing a judge to require a person with an obligation to pay child support to continue an existing life insurance policy where the parents were not married.