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BILL ANALYSIS

Judiciary Committee

HB 2299

Title: An act relating to defining person under the business corporation act, uniform limited partnership act, and limited liability company act.

Brief Description: Defining person under the business corporation act, uniform limited partnership act, and limited liability company act.

Sponsors: Representatives Esser and Lantz.

Brief Summary of Bill

Providing uniformity in the definition of person— in various business entity statutes.

Hearing Date: 1/15/02

Staff: Bill Perry (786-7123).

Background:

A variety of business entities are authorized under Washington law. Some of these entities are the subject of individual chapters in the RCW. In recent years, several new kinds of business entities, such as limited liability partnerships and companies have been authorized.

The word "person" appears in the definition sections of several of the laws relating to business entities. The word is applied in various ways throughout each of these laws. The word may be defined somewhat differently in each of these separate laws. For instance, "person" in the Business Corporation Act is defined simply to include "an individual and an entity," although the word "entity" is defined elsewhere in the act with some greater specificity.

The most recent enactment relating to business entities is the Revised Uniform Partnership Act (RUPA). That law was enacted in 1998 and contains a more detailed and comprehensive definition of the term "person."

Summary of Bill:

The Business Corporation Act, the Uniform Limited Partnership Act, and the Limited

House Bill Analysis - 1 - HB 2299

Liability Company Act are each amended to incorporate the definition of "person" that is used in the RUPA.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not Requested.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.