

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5688**

Chapter 521, Laws of 2009

61st Legislature  
2009 Regular Session

DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIPS--EXPANSION OF RIGHTS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/26/09 - Except for sections 5 through 8, 79, 87 through 103, 107, 151, 173 through 175, and 190 through 192, which become effective 01/01/14; and sections 165 and 166, which become effective 08/01/09.

Passed by the Senate March 10, 2009  
YEAS 30 NAYS 18

BRAD OWEN

\_\_\_\_\_  
**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House April 15, 2009  
YEAS 62 NAYS 35

FRANK CHOPP

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

CERTIFICATE

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5688** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

THOMAS HOEMANN

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Secretary**

Approved May 18, 2009, 11:05 a.m.

FILED

May 20, 2009

CHRISTINE GREGOIRE

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Governor of the State of Washington**

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

---

**ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5688**

---

Passed Legislature - 2009 Regular Session

**State of Washington**

**61st Legislature**

**2009 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Murray, McDermott, Kohl-Welles, Fairley, Hobbs, Ranker, Pridemore, Kauffman, Kline, Keiser, Regala, Fraser, Prentice, Oemig, Franklin, McAuliffe, Jarrett, Brown, Kilmer, and Tom)

READ FIRST TIME 02/17/09.

1       AN    ACT    Relating   to   further   expanding   the   rights   and  
2   responsibilities   of   state   registered   domestic   partners;   amending   RCW  
3   2.10.030,   6.27.140,   10.77.205,   11.88.030,   26.60.040,   26.60.090,  
4   41.16.010,   41.18.010,   49.78.020,   65.12.035,   71.05.425,   72.09.015,  
5   72.09.712,   72.36.115,   77.36.010,   83.100.046,   83.100.047,   and   84.04.050;  
6   adding   a   new   section   to   chapter   26.60   RCW;   adding   a   new   section   to  
7   chapter   34.05   RCW;   adding   a   new   section   to   chapter   1.12   RCW;   adding   a  
8   new   section   to   chapter   1.16   RCW;   adding   a   new   section   to   chapter   2.10  
9   RCW;   adding   a   new   section   to   chapter   2.12   RCW;   adding   a   new   section   to  
10   chapter   2.14   RCW;   adding   a   new   section   to   chapter   2.56   RCW;   adding   a  
11   new   section   to   chapter   4.24   RCW;   adding   a   new   section   to   chapter   4.28  
12   RCW;   adding   a   new   section   to   chapter   5.44   RCW;   adding   a   new   section   to  
13   chapter   6.15   RCW;   adding   a   new   section   to   chapter   6.27   RCW;   adding   a  
14   new   section   to   chapter   7.08   RCW;   adding   a   new   section   to   chapter   7.68  
15   RCW;   adding   a   new   section   to   chapter   9.58   RCW;   adding   a   new   section   to  
16   chapter   9.68   RCW;   adding   a   new   section   to   chapter   9.68A   RCW;   adding   a  
17   new   section   to   chapter   9.94A   RCW;   adding   a   new   section   to   chapter   9A.16  
18   RCW;   adding   a   new   section   to   chapter   9A.40   RCW;   adding   a   new   section   to  
19   chapter   9A.44   RCW;   adding   a   new   section   to   chapter   9A.76   RCW;   adding   a  
20   new   section   to   chapter   10.77   RCW;   adding   a   new   section   to   chapter   10.95  
21   RCW;   adding   a   new   section   to   chapter   10.99   RCW;   adding   a   new   section   to

1 chapter 10.101 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 11.40 RCW; adding  
2 a new section to chapter 11.42 RCW; adding a new section to chapter  
3 11.66 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 11.68 RCW; adding a new  
4 section to chapter 11.88 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 11.94  
5 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 11.95 RCW; adding a new section to  
6 chapter 11.98 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 11.104A RCW; adding  
7 a new section to chapter 11.108 RCW; adding a new section to chapter  
8 13.34 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 13.40 RCW; adding a new  
9 section to chapter 13.64 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 18.20  
10 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 18.35 RCW; adding a new section to  
11 chapter 18.51 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 18.96 RCW; adding a  
12 new section to chapter 18.118 RCW; adding a new section to chapter  
13 18.120 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 19.09 RCW; adding a new  
14 section to chapter 19.16 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 19.36  
15 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 19.40 RCW; adding a new section to  
16 chapter 19.72 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 19.98 RCW; adding a  
17 new section to chapter 19.120 RCW; adding a new section to chapter  
18 19.205 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 19.220 RCW; adding a new  
19 section to chapter 19.225 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 21.20  
20 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 21.35 RCW; adding a new section to  
21 chapter 23B.08 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 23B.19 RCW; adding  
22 a new section to chapter 26.09 RCW; adding a new section to chapter  
23 26.18 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 26.26 RCW; adding a new  
24 section to chapter 26.27 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 26.28  
25 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 26.33 RCW; adding a new section to  
26 chapter 28B.10 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28B.15 RCW; adding  
27 a new section to chapter 28B.50 RCW; adding a new section to chapter  
28 30.22 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 31.12 RCW; adding a new  
29 section to chapter 35.21 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 35.54  
30 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 35A.01 RCW; adding a new section  
31 to chapter 36.17 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 36.88 RCW; adding  
32 a new section to chapter 38.42 RCW; adding a new section to chapter  
33 38.52 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.04 RCW; adding a new  
34 section to chapter 41.06 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.16  
35 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.18 RCW; adding a new section to  
36 chapter 41.20 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.24 RCW; adding a  
37 new section to chapter 41.26 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.28  
38 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.32 RCW; adding a new section to

1 chapter 41.34 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.35 RCW; adding a  
2 new section to chapter 41.37 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.40  
3 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.44 RCW; adding a new section to  
4 chapter 41.50 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.54 RCW; adding a  
5 new section to chapter 41.68 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 42.23  
6 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 42.52 RCW; adding a new section to  
7 chapter 43.20B RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.43 RCW; adding  
8 a new section to chapter 43.56 RCW; adding a new section to chapter  
9 43.180 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.215 RCW; adding a new  
10 section to chapter 43.235 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 46.04  
11 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.17 RCW; adding a new section to  
12 chapter 48.18 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.20 RCW; adding a  
13 new section to chapter 48.21 RCW; adding a new section to chapter  
14 48.21A RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.22 RCW; adding a new  
15 section to chapter 48.23 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.24  
16 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.25 RCW; adding a new section to  
17 chapter 48.29 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.30 RCW; adding a  
18 new section to chapter 48.41 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.43  
19 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.44 RCW; adding a new section to  
20 chapter 48.46 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.66 RCW; adding a  
21 new section to chapter 48.76 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 49.12  
22 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 49.48 RCW; adding a new section to  
23 chapter 49.74 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 49.77 RCW; adding a  
24 new section to chapter 49.78 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 49.86  
25 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 50.04 RCW; adding a new section to  
26 chapter 51.08 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 59.18 RCW; adding a  
27 new section to chapter 59.20 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 59.21  
28 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 59.22 RCW; adding a new section to  
29 chapter 62A.1 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 65.12 RCW; adding a  
30 new section to chapter 66.24 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 67.70  
31 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 68.04 RCW; adding a new section to  
32 chapter 70.02 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 70.24 RCW; adding a  
33 new section to chapter 70.47 RCW; adding a new section to chapter  
34 70.47A RCW; adding a new section to chapter 70.58 RCW; adding a new  
35 section to chapter 70.122 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 70.128  
36 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 70.190 RCW; adding a new section  
37 to chapter 71.05 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 71.09 RCW; adding  
38 a new section to chapter 71.12 RCW; adding a new section to chapter

1 71.32 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 71A.20 RCW; adding a new  
2 section to chapter 72.01 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 72.09  
3 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 72.23 RCW; adding a new section to  
4 chapter 72.36 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 72.64 RCW; adding a  
5 new section to chapter 72.66 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 73.16  
6 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 74.04 RCW; adding a new section to  
7 chapter 74.08A RCW; adding a new section to chapter 74.09 RCW; adding  
8 a new section to chapter 74.09A RCW; adding a new section to chapter  
9 74.13 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 74.15 RCW; adding a new  
10 section to chapter 74.20 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 74.20A  
11 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 74.34 RCW; adding a new section to  
12 chapter 74.41 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 77.08 RCW; adding a  
13 new section to chapter 79A.05 RCW; adding a new section to chapter  
14 80.28 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 81.28 RCW; adding a new  
15 section to chapter 81.80 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 82.08  
16 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 83.100 RCW; adding a new section  
17 to chapter 83.110A RCW; adding a new section to chapter 84.04 RCW;  
18 adding a new section to chapter 85.38 RCW; adding a new section to  
19 chapter 87.03 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 89.12 RCW; adding a  
20 new section to chapter 91.08 RCW; repealing RCW 26.60.050 and  
21 26.60.055; and providing effective dates.

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 26.60 RCW  
24 to read as follows:

25 It is the intent of the legislature that for all purposes under  
26 state law, state registered domestic partners shall be treated the same  
27 as married spouses. Any privilege, immunity, right, benefit, or  
28 responsibility granted or imposed by statute, administrative or court  
29 rule, policy, common law or any other law to an individual because the  
30 individual is or was a spouse, or because the individual is or was an  
31 in-law in a specified way to another individual, is granted on  
32 equivalent terms, substantive and procedural, to an individual because  
33 the individual is or was in a state registered domestic partnership or  
34 because the individual is or was, based on a state registered domestic  
35 partnership, related in a specified way to another individual. The

1 provisions of this act shall be liberally construed to achieve equal  
2 treatment, to the extent not in conflict with federal law, of state  
3 registered domestic partners and married spouses.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 34.05 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) Subject to the availability of funds appropriated for this  
7 specific purpose, except where inconsistent with federal law or  
8 regulations applicable to federal benefit programs, agencies shall  
9 amend their rules to reflect the intent of the legislature to ensure  
10 that all privileges, immunities, rights, benefits, or responsibilities  
11 granted or imposed by statute to an individual because that individual  
12 is or was a spouse in a marital relationship are granted or imposed on  
13 equivalent terms to an individual because that individual is or was in  
14 a state registered domestic partnership.

15 (2) Except where inconsistent with federal law or regulations  
16 applicable to federal benefit programs, all agency orders creating new  
17 rules, or amending existing rules, shall be formulated to reflect the  
18 intent stated in subsection (1) of this section.

19 (3) No agency rule is invalid because it does not comply with this  
20 section.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 1.12 RCW  
22 to read as follows:

23 For the purposes of this code, with the exception of chapter 26.04  
24 RCW, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow,  
25 widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying  
26 equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in  
27 state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital  
28 relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of  
29 marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships  
30 that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent  
31 that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where  
32 necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband  
33 and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to  
34 be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered  
35 domestic partnerships.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 4.**    A new section is added to chapter 1.16 RCW  
2 to read as follows:

3        For the purposes of this code, with the exception of chapter 26.04  
4 RCW, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow,  
5 widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying  
6 equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in  
7 state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital  
8 relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of  
9 marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships  
10 that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent  
11 that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where  
12 necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband  
13 and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to  
14 be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered  
15 domestic partnerships.

16        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 5.**    A new section is added to chapter 2.10 RCW  
17 to read as follows:

18        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
19 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
20 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
21 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
22 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
23 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
24 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
25 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
26 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
27 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
28 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
29 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

30        **Sec. 6.**    RCW 2.10.030 and 1997 c 88 s 5 are each amended to read as  
31 follows:

32        (1) "Retirement system" means the "Washington judicial retirement  
33 system" provided herein.

34        (2) "Judge" means a person elected or appointed to serve as judge  
35 of a court of record as provided in chapters 2.04, 2.06, and 2.08 RCW.

1 "Judge" does not include a person serving as a judge pro tempore except  
2 for a judge pro tempore appointed under RCW 2.04.240(2) or 2.06.150(2).

3 (3) "Retirement board" means the "Washington judicial retirement  
4 board" established herein.

5 (4) "Surviving spouse" means the surviving widow or widower or  
6 surviving state registered domestic partner of a judge. "Surviving  
7 spouse" does not include the divorced spouse of a judge or an  
8 individual whose state registered domestic partnership with the judge  
9 has been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated.

10 (5) "Retirement fund" means the "Washington judicial retirement  
11 fund" established herein.

12 (6) "Beneficiary" means any person in receipt of a retirement  
13 allowance, disability allowance or any other benefit described herein.

14 (7) "Monthly salary" means the monthly salary of the position held  
15 by the judge.

16 (8) "Service" means all periods of time served as a judge, as  
17 herein defined. Any calendar month at the beginning or end of a term  
18 in which ten or more days are served shall be counted as a full month  
19 of service: PROVIDED, That no more than one month's service may be  
20 granted for any one calendar month. Only months of service will be  
21 counted in the computation of any retirement allowance or other benefit  
22 provided for in this chapter. Years of service shall be determined by  
23 dividing the total months of service by twelve. Any fraction of a year  
24 of service as so determined shall be taken into account in the  
25 computation of such retirement allowance or benefit.

26 (9) "Final average salary" means (a) for a judge in service in the  
27 same court for a minimum of twelve consecutive months preceding the  
28 date of retirement, the salary attached to the position held by the  
29 judge immediately prior to retirement; (b) for any other judge, the  
30 average monthly salary paid over the highest twenty-four month period  
31 in the last ten years of service.

32 (10) "Retirement allowance" for the purpose of applying cost of  
33 living increases or decreases includes retirement allowances,  
34 disability allowances and survivorship benefit.

35 (11) "Index" means for any calendar year, that year's annual  
36 average consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical  
37 workers, all items (1957-1959 equal one hundred) -- compiled by the  
38 bureau of labor statistics, United States department of labor.



1 (12) "Accumulated contributions" means the total amount deducted  
2 from the judge's monthly salary pursuant to RCW 2.10.090, together with  
3 the regular interest thereon from July 1, 1988, as determined by the  
4 director of the department of retirement systems.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 2.12 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
8 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
9 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
10 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
11 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
12 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
13 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
14 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
15 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
16 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
17 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
18 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** A new section is added to chapter 2.14 RCW  
20 to read as follows:

21 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
22 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
23 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
24 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
25 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
26 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
27 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
28 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
29 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
30 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
31 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
32 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** A new section is added to chapter 2.56 RCW  
34 to read as follows:

35 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,

1 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
2 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
3 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
4 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
5 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
6 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
7 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
8 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
9 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
10 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
11 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** A new section is added to chapter 4.24 RCW  
13 to read as follows:

14 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
15 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
16 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
17 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
18 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
19 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
20 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
21 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
22 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
23 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
24 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
25 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** A new section is added to chapter 4.28 RCW  
27 to read as follows:

28 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
29 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
30 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
31 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
32 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
33 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
34 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
35 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
36 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-

1 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
2 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
3 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 12.** A new section is added to chapter 5.44 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
7 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
8 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
9 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
10 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
11 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
12 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
13 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
14 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
15 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
16 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
17 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** A new section is added to chapter 6.15 RCW  
19 to read as follows:

20 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
21 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
22 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
23 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
24 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
25 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
26 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
27 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
28 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
29 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
30 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
31 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** A new section is added to chapter 6.27 RCW  
33 to read as follows:

34 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
35 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall

1 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
2 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
3 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
4 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
5 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
6 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
7 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
8 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
9 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
10 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

11 **Sec. 15.** RCW 6.27.140 and 2003 c 222 s 6 are each amended to read  
12 as follows:

13 (1) The notice required by RCW 6.27.130(1) to be mailed to or  
14 served on an individual judgment debtor shall be in the following form,  
15 printed or typed in type no smaller than elite type:

16 NOTICE OF GARNISHMENT  
17 AND OF YOUR RIGHTS

18 A Writ of Garnishment issued in a Washington court has been or  
19 will be served on the garnishee named in the attached copy of  
20 the writ. After receipt of the writ, the garnishee is required  
21 to withhold payment of any money that was due to you and to  
22 withhold any other property of yours that the garnishee held or  
23 controlled. This notice of your rights is required by law.

24 YOU HAVE THE FOLLOWING EXEMPTION RIGHTS:

25 WAGES. If the garnishee is your employer who owes wages or  
26 other personal earnings to you, your employer is required to  
27 pay amounts to you that are exempt under state and federal  
28 laws, as explained in the writ of garnishment. You should  
29 receive a copy of your employer's answer, which will show how  
30 the exempt amount was calculated. If the garnishment is for  
31 child support, the exempt amount paid to you will be forty  
32 percent of wages due you, but if you are supporting a spouse,  
33 state registered domestic partner, or dependent child, you are  
34 entitled to claim an additional ten percent as exempt.

35 BANK ACCOUNTS. If the garnishee is a bank or other institution

1 with which you have an account in which you have  
2 deposited benefits such as Temporary Assistance  
3 for Needy Families, Supplemental Security Income  
4 (SSI), Social Security, veterans' benefits,  
5 unemployment compensation, or a United States  
6 pension, you may claim the account as fully  
7 exempt if you have deposited only such benefit  
8 funds in the account. It may be partially  
9 exempt even though you have deposited money from  
10 other sources in the same account. An exemption  
11 is also available under RCW 26.16.200, providing  
12 that funds in a community bank account that can  
13 be identified as the earnings of a stepparent  
14 are exempt from a garnishment on the child  
15 support obligation of the parent.

16 OTHER EXEMPTIONS. If the garnishee holds other property of  
17 yours, some or all of it may be exempt under RCW 6.15.010, a  
18 Washington statute that exempts up to five hundred dollars of  
19 property of your choice (including up to one hundred dollars in  
20 cash or in a bank account) and certain property such as  
21 household furnishings, tools of trade, and a motor vehicle (all  
22 limited by differing dollar values).

23 HOW TO CLAIM EXEMPTIONS. Fill out the enclosed claim form and  
24 mail or deliver it as described in instructions on the claim  
25 form. If the plaintiff does not object to your claim, the  
26 funds or other property that you have claimed as exempt must be  
27 released not later than 10 days after the plaintiff receives  
28 your claim form. If the plaintiff objects, the law requires a  
29 hearing not later than 14 days after the plaintiff receives  
30 your claim form, and notice of the objection and hearing date  
31 will be mailed to you at the address that you put on the claim  
32 form.

33 THE LAW ALSO PROVIDES OTHER EXEMPTION RIGHTS. IF NECESSARY, AN  
34 ATTORNEY CAN ASSIST YOU TO ASSERT THESE AND OTHER RIGHTS, BUT  
35 YOU MUST ACT IMMEDIATELY TO AVOID LOSS OF RIGHTS BY DELAY.

1 (2) The claim form required by RCW 6.27.130(1) to be mailed to or  
2 served on an individual judgment debtor shall be in the following form,  
3 printed or typed in type no smaller than elite type:

4 [Caption to be filled in by judgment creditor  
5 or plaintiff before mailing.]

6 .....  
7 Name of Court  
8 ..... No.....  
9 Plaintiff,  
10 vs.  
11 ..... EXEMPTION CLAIM  
12 Defendant,  
13 .....  
14 Garnishee Defendant

15 INSTRUCTIONS:

- 16 1. Read this whole form after reading the enclosed  
17 notice. Then put an X in the box or boxes that  
18 describe your exemption claim or claims and write in  
19 the necessary information on the blank lines. If  
20 additional space is needed, use the bottom of the last  
21 page or attach another sheet.
- 22 2. Make two copies of the completed form. Deliver the  
23 original form by first-class mail or in person to the  
24 clerk of the court, whose address is shown at the  
25 bottom of the writ of garnishment. Deliver one of  
26 the copies by first-class mail or in person to the  
27 plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, whose name and  
28 address are shown at the bottom of the writ. Keep  
29 the other copy. YOU SHOULD DO THIS AS  
30 QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, BUT NO LATER  
31 THAN 28 DAYS (4 WEEKS) AFTER THE DATE  
32 ON THE WRIT.

33 I/We claim the following money or property as exempt:

34 IF BANK ACCOUNT IS GARNISHED:

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34

- The account contains payments from:
  - Temporary assistance for needy families, SSI, or other public assistance. I receive \$ . . . . monthly.
  - Social Security. I receive \$ . . . . monthly.
  - Veterans' Benefits. I receive \$ . . . . monthly.
  - U.S. Government Pension. I receive \$ . . . . monthly.
  - Unemployment Compensation. I receive \$ . . . . monthly.
  - Child support. I receive \$ . . . . monthly.
  - Other. Explain . . . . .  
.....

IF EXEMPTION IN BANK ACCOUNT IS CLAIMED,  
ANSWER ONE OR BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING:

- No money other than from above payments are in the account.
- Moneys in addition to the above payments have been deposited in the account. Explain . . . . .  
.....  
.....

IF EARNINGS ARE GARNISHED FOR CHILD  
SUPPORT:

- I claim maximum exemption.
- I am supporting another child or other children.
- I am supporting a husband (~~or a~~), wife, or state registered domestic partner.

IF PENSION OR RETIREMENT BENEFITS ARE  
GARNISHED:

- Name and address of employer who is paying the benefits: . . . . .  
.....

OTHER PROPERTY:

- Describe property . . . . .  
.....

(If you claim other personal property as exempt, you must attach a list of all other personal property that you own.)

Print: Your name If married or in a state registered domestic partnership, name of husband/wife/state registered domestic partner

Your signature Signature of husband ((or)), wife, or state registered domestic partner

Address Address (if different from yours)

Telephone number Telephone number (if different from yours)

CAUTION: If the plaintiff objects to your claim, you will have to go to court and give proof of your claim. For example, if you claim that a bank account is exempt, you may have to show the judge your bank statements and papers that show the source of the money you deposited in the bank. Your claim may be granted more quickly if you attach copies of such proof to your claim.

IF THE JUDGE DENIES YOUR EXEMPTION CLAIM, YOU WILL HAVE TO PAY THE PLAINTIFF'S COSTS. IF THE JUDGE DECIDES THAT YOU DID NOT MAKE THE CLAIM IN GOOD FAITH, HE OR SHE MAY DECIDE THAT YOU MUST PAY THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY FEES.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 16. A new section is added to chapter 7.08 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic



1 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
2 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
3 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
4 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
5 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
6 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
7 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
8 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
9 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 17.** A new section is added to chapter 7.68 RCW  
11 to read as follows:

12 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
13 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
14 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
15 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
16 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
17 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
18 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
19 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
20 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
21 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
22 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
23 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 18.** A new section is added to chapter 9.58 RCW  
25 to read as follows:

26 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
27 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
28 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
29 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
30 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
31 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
32 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
33 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
34 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
35 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or

1 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
2 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 19.** A new section is added to chapter 9.68 RCW  
4 to read as follows:

5 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
6 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
7 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
8 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
9 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
10 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
11 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
12 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
13 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
14 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
15 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
16 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 20.** A new section is added to chapter 9.68A RCW  
18 to read as follows:

19 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
20 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
21 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
22 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
23 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
24 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
25 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
26 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
27 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
28 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
29 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
30 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 21.** A new section is added to chapter 9.94A RCW  
32 to read as follows:

33 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
34 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
35 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic

1 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
2 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
3 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
4 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
5 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
6 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
7 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
8 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
9 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 22.** A new section is added to chapter 9A.16 RCW  
11 to read as follows:

12 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
13 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
14 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
15 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
16 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
17 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
18 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
19 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
20 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
21 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
22 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
23 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 23.** A new section is added to chapter 9A.40 RCW  
25 to read as follows:

26 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
27 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
28 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
29 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
30 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
31 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
32 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
33 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
34 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
35 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or

1 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
2 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 24.** A new section is added to chapter 9A.44 RCW  
4 to read as follows:

5 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
6 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
7 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
8 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
9 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
10 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
11 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
12 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
13 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
14 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
15 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
16 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 25.** A new section is added to chapter 9A.76 RCW  
18 to read as follows:

19 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
20 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
21 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
22 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
23 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
24 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
25 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
26 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
27 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
28 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
29 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
30 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 26.** A new section is added to chapter 10.77 RCW  
32 to read as follows:

33 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
34 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
35 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic

1 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
2 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
3 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
4 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
5 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
6 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
7 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
8 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
9 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

10 **Sec. 27.** RCW 10.77.205 and 2000 c 94 s 17 are each amended to read  
11 as follows:

12 (1)(a) At the earliest possible date, and in no event later than  
13 thirty days before conditional release, release, authorized furlough  
14 pursuant to RCW 10.77.163, or transfer to a less-restrictive facility  
15 than a state mental hospital, the superintendent shall send written  
16 notice of the conditional release, release, authorized furlough, or  
17 transfer of a person who has been found not guilty of a sex, violent,  
18 or felony harassment offense by reason of insanity and who is now in  
19 the custody of the department pursuant to this chapter, to the  
20 following:

21 (i) The chief of police of the city, if any, in which the person  
22 will reside; and

23 (ii) The sheriff of the county in which the person will reside.

24 (b) The same notice as required by (a) of this subsection shall be  
25 sent to the following, if such notice has been requested in writing  
26 about a specific person committed under this chapter:

27 (i) The victim of the crime for which the person was committed or  
28 the victim's next of kin if the crime was a homicide;

29 (ii) Any witnesses who testified against the person in any court  
30 proceedings; and

31 (iii) Any person specified in writing by the prosecuting attorney.  
32 Information regarding victims, next of kin, or witnesses requesting the  
33 notice, information regarding any other person specified in writing by  
34 the prosecuting attorney to receive the notice, and the notice are  
35 confidential and shall not be available to the person committed under  
36 this chapter.

1 (c) In addition to the notice requirements of (a) and (b) of this  
2 subsection, the superintendent shall comply with RCW 10.77.163.

3 (d) The thirty-day notice requirement contained in (a) and (b) of  
4 this subsection shall not apply to emergency medical furloughs.

5 (e) The existence of the notice requirements in (a) and (b) of this  
6 subsection shall not require any extension of the release date in the  
7 event the release plan changes after notification.

8 (2) If a person who has been found not guilty of a sex, violent, or  
9 felony harassment offense by reason of insanity and who is committed  
10 under this chapter escapes, the superintendent shall immediately  
11 notify, by the most reasonable and expedient means available, the chief  
12 of police of the city and the sheriff of the county in which the person  
13 resided immediately before the person's arrest. If previously  
14 requested, the superintendent shall also notify the witnesses and the  
15 victim, if any, of the crime for which the person was committed or the  
16 victim's next of kin if the crime was a homicide. The superintendent  
17 shall also notify appropriate persons pursuant to RCW 10.77.165. If  
18 the person is recaptured, the secretary shall send notice to the  
19 persons designated in this subsection as soon as possible but in no  
20 event later than two working days after the department learns of such  
21 recapture.

22 (3) If the victim, the victim's next of kin, or any witness is  
23 under the age of sixteen, the notice required by this section shall be  
24 sent to the parents or legal guardian of the child.

25 (4) The department shall send the notices required by this chapter  
26 to the last address provided to the department by the requesting party.  
27 The requesting party shall furnish the department with a current  
28 address.

29 (5) For purposes of this section the following terms have the  
30 following meanings:

31 (a) "Violent offense" means a violent offense under RCW 9.94A.030;

32 (b) "Sex offense" means a sex offense under RCW 9.94A.030;

33 (c) "Next of kin" means a person's spouse, state registered  
34 domestic partner, parents, siblings, and children;

35 (d) "Authorized furlough" means a furlough granted after compliance  
36 with RCW 10.77.163;

37 (e) "Felony harassment offense" means a crime of harassment as  
38 defined in RCW 9A.46.060 that is a felony.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 28.**    A new section is added to chapter 10.95 RCW  
2 to read as follows:

3        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
4 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
5 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
6 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
7 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
8 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
9 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
10 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
11 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
12 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
13 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
14 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

15        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 29.**    A new section is added to chapter 10.99 RCW  
16 to read as follows:

17        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
18 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
19 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
20 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
21 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
22 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
23 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
24 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
25 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
26 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
27 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
28 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

29        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 30.**    A new section is added to chapter 10.101  
30 RCW to read as follows:

31        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
32 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
33 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
34 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
35 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
36 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered

1 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
2 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
3 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
4 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
5 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
6 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 31.** A new section is added to chapter 11.40 RCW  
8 to read as follows:

9 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
10 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
11 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
12 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
13 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
14 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
15 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
16 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
17 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
18 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
19 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
20 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 32.** A new section is added to chapter 11.42 RCW  
22 to read as follows:

23 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
24 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
25 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
26 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
27 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
28 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
29 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
30 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
31 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
32 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
33 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
34 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.



1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 33.**    A new section is added to chapter 11.66 RCW  
2 to read as follows:

3        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
4 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
5 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
6 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
7 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
8 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
9 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
10 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
11 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
12 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
13 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
14 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

15        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 34.**    A new section is added to chapter 11.68 RCW  
16 to read as follows:

17        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
18 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
19 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
20 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
21 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
22 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
23 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
24 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
25 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
26 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
27 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
28 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

29        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 35.**    A new section is added to chapter 11.88 RCW  
30 to read as follows:

31        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
32 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
33 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
34 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
35 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
36 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered

1 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
2 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
3 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
4 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
5 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
6 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

7 **Sec. 36.** RCW 11.88.030 and 1996 c 249 s 8 are each amended to read  
8 as follows:

9 (1) Any person or entity may petition for the appointment of a  
10 qualified person, trust company, national bank, or nonprofit  
11 corporation authorized in RCW 11.88.020 as the guardian or limited  
12 guardian of an incapacitated person. No liability for filing a  
13 petition for guardianship or limited guardianship shall attach to a  
14 petitioner acting in good faith and upon reasonable basis. A petition  
15 for guardianship or limited guardianship shall state:

16 (a) The name, age, residence, and post office address of the  
17 alleged incapacitated person;

18 (b) The nature of the alleged incapacity in accordance with RCW  
19 11.88.010;

20 (c) The approximate value and description of property, including  
21 any compensation, pension, insurance, or allowance, to which the  
22 alleged incapacitated person may be entitled;

23 (d) Whether there is, in any state, a guardian or limited guardian,  
24 or pending guardianship action for the person or estate of the alleged  
25 incapacitated person;

26 (e) The residence and post office address of the person whom  
27 petitioner asks to be appointed guardian or limited guardian;

28 (f) The names and addresses, and nature of the relationship, so far  
29 as known or can be reasonably ascertained, of the persons most closely  
30 related by blood ~~((or))~~, marriage, or state registered domestic  
31 partnership to the alleged incapacitated person;

32 (g) The name and address of the person or facility having the care  
33 and custody of the alleged incapacitated person;

34 (h) The reason why the appointment of a guardian or limited  
35 guardian is sought and the interest of the petitioner in the  
36 appointment, and whether the appointment is sought as guardian or  
37 limited guardian of the person, the estate, or both;

1 (i) A description of any alternate arrangements previously made by  
2 the alleged incapacitated person, such as trusts or powers of attorney,  
3 including identifying any guardianship nominations contained in a power  
4 of attorney, and why a guardianship is nevertheless necessary;

5 (j) The nature and degree of the alleged incapacity and the  
6 specific areas of protection and assistance requested and the  
7 limitation of rights requested to be included in the court's order of  
8 appointment;

9 (k) The requested term of the limited guardianship to be included  
10 in the court's order of appointment;

11 (1) Whether the petitioner is proposing a specific individual to  
12 act as guardian ad litem and, if so, the individual's knowledge of or  
13 relationship to any of the parties, and why the individual is proposed.

14 (2)(a) The attorney general may petition for the appointment of a  
15 guardian or limited guardian in any case in which there is cause to  
16 believe that a guardianship is necessary and no private party is able  
17 and willing to petition.

18 (b) Prepayment of a filing fee shall not be required in any  
19 guardianship or limited guardianship brought by the attorney general.  
20 Payment of the filing fee shall be ordered from the estate of the  
21 incapacitated person at the hearing on the merits of the petition,  
22 unless in the judgment of the court, such payment would impose a  
23 hardship upon the incapacitated person, in which case the filing shall  
24 be waived.

25 (3) No filing fee shall be charged by the court for filing either  
26 a petition for guardianship or a petition for limited guardianship if  
27 the petition alleges that the alleged incapacitated person has total  
28 assets of a value of less than three thousand dollars.

29 (4)(a) Notice that a guardianship proceeding has been commenced  
30 shall be personally served upon the alleged incapacitated person and  
31 the guardian ad litem along with a copy of the petition for appointment  
32 of a guardian. Such notice shall be served not more than five court  
33 days after the petition has been filed.

34 (b) Notice under this subsection shall include a clear and easily  
35 readable statement of the legal rights of the alleged incapacitated  
36 person that could be restricted or transferred to a guardian by a  
37 guardianship order as well as the right to counsel of choice and to a

1 jury trial on the issue of incapacity. Such notice shall be in  
2 substantially the following form and shall be in capital letters,  
3 double-spaced, and in a type size not smaller than ten-point type:

4 IMPORTANT NOTICE PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

5 A PETITION TO HAVE A GUARDIAN APPOINTED FOR YOU HAS BEEN FILED IN THE  
6 . . . . . COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT BY . . . . . IF A GUARDIAN IS  
7 APPOINTED, YOU COULD LOSE ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING RIGHTS:

- 8 (1) TO MARRY ((~~OR~~)), DIVORCE, OR ENTER INTO OR END A STATE  
9 REGISTERED DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP;
- 10 (2) TO VOTE OR HOLD AN ELECTED OFFICE;
- 11 (3) TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OR MAKE OR REVOKE A WILL;
- 12 (4) TO APPOINT SOMEONE TO ACT ON YOUR BEHALF;
- 13 (5) TO SUE AND BE SUED OTHER THAN THROUGH A GUARDIAN;
- 14 (6) TO POSSESS A LICENSE TO DRIVE;
- 15 (7) TO BUY, SELL, OWN, MORTGAGE, OR LEASE PROPERTY;
- 16 (8) TO CONSENT TO OR REFUSE MEDICAL TREATMENT;
- 17 (9) TO DECIDE WHO SHALL PROVIDE CARE AND ASSISTANCE;
- 18 (10) TO MAKE DECISIONS REGARDING SOCIAL ASPECTS OF YOUR LIFE.

19 UNDER THE LAW, YOU HAVE CERTAIN RIGHTS.

20 YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE REPRESENTED BY A LAWYER OF YOUR OWN CHOOSING.  
21 THE COURT WILL APPOINT A LAWYER TO REPRESENT YOU IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO  
22 PAY OR PAYMENT WOULD RESULT IN A SUBSTANTIAL HARDSHIP TO YOU.

23 YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO ASK FOR A JURY TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT YOU NEED  
24 A GUARDIAN TO HELP YOU.

25 YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE PRESENT IN COURT AND TESTIFY WHEN THE HEARING  
26 IS HELD TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT YOU NEED A GUARDIAN. IF A GUARDIAN AD  
27 LITEM IS APPOINTED, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REQUEST THE COURT TO REPLACE  
28 THAT PERSON.

29 (5) All petitions filed under the provisions of this section shall  
30 be heard within sixty days unless an extension of time is requested by  
31 a party or the guardian ad litem within such sixty day period and  
32 granted for good cause shown. If an extension is granted, the court  
33 shall set a new hearing date.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 37.** A new section is added to chapter 11.94 RCW  
35 to read as follows:

1 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
2 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
3 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
4 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
5 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
6 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
7 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
8 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
9 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
10 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
11 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
12 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 38.** A new section is added to chapter 11.95 RCW  
14 to read as follows:

15 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
16 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
17 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
18 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
19 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
20 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
21 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
22 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
23 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
24 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
25 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
26 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 39.** A new section is added to chapter 11.98 RCW  
28 to read as follows:

29 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
30 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
31 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
32 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
33 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
34 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
35 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
36 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict

1 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
2 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
3 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
4 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 40.** A new section is added to chapter 11.104A  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
8 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
9 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
10 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
11 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
12 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
13 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
14 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
15 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
16 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
17 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
18 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 41.** A new section is added to chapter 11.108  
20 RCW to read as follows:

21 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
22 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
23 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
24 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
25 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
26 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
27 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
28 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
29 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
30 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
31 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
32 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 42.** A new section is added to chapter 13.34 RCW  
34 to read as follows:

35 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,

1 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
2 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
3 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
4 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
5 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
6 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
7 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
8 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
9 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
10 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
11 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 43.** A new section is added to chapter 13.40 RCW  
13 to read as follows:

14 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
15 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
16 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
17 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
18 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
19 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
20 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
21 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
22 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
23 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
24 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
25 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 44.** A new section is added to chapter 13.64 RCW  
27 to read as follows:

28 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
29 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
30 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
31 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
32 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
33 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
34 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
35 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
36 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-

1 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
2 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
3 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 45.** A new section is added to chapter 18.20 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
7 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
8 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
9 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
10 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
11 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
12 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
13 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
14 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
15 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
16 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
17 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 46.** A new section is added to chapter 18.35 RCW  
19 to read as follows:

20 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
21 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
22 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
23 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
24 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
25 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
26 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
27 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
28 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
29 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
30 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
31 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 47.** A new section is added to chapter 18.51 RCW  
33 to read as follows:

34 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
35 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall



1 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
2 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
3 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
4 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
5 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
6 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
7 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
8 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
9 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
10 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 48.** A new section is added to chapter 18.96 RCW  
12 to read as follows:

13 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
14 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
15 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
16 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
17 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
18 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
19 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
20 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
21 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
22 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
23 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
24 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 49.** A new section is added to chapter 18.118  
26 RCW to read as follows:

27 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
28 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
29 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
30 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
31 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
32 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
33 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
34 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
35 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-

1 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
2 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
3 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 50.** A new section is added to chapter 18.120  
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
7 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
8 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
9 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
10 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
11 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
12 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
13 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
14 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
15 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
16 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
17 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 51.** A new section is added to chapter 19.09 RCW  
19 to read as follows:

20 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
21 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
22 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
23 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
24 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
25 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
26 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
27 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
28 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
29 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
30 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
31 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 52.** A new section is added to chapter 19.16 RCW  
33 to read as follows:

34 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
35 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall

1 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
2 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
3 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
4 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
5 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
6 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
7 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
8 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
9 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
10 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 53.** A new section is added to chapter 19.36 RCW  
12 to read as follows:

13 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
14 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
15 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
16 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
17 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
18 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
19 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
20 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
21 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
22 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
23 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
24 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 54.** A new section is added to chapter 19.40 RCW  
26 to read as follows:

27 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
28 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
29 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
30 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
31 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
32 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
33 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
34 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
35 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-

1 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
2 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
3 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 55.** A new section is added to chapter 19.72 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
7 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
8 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
9 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
10 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
11 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
12 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
13 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
14 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
15 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
16 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
17 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 56.** A new section is added to chapter 19.98 RCW  
19 to read as follows:

20 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
21 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
22 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
23 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
24 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
25 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
26 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
27 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
28 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
29 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
30 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
31 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 57.** A new section is added to chapter 19.120  
33 RCW to read as follows:

34 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
35 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall

1 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
2 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
3 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
4 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
5 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
6 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
7 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
8 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
9 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
10 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 58.** A new section is added to chapter 19.205  
12 RCW to read as follows:

13 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
14 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
15 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
16 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
17 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
18 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
19 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
20 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
21 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
22 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
23 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
24 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 59.** A new section is added to chapter 19.220  
26 RCW to read as follows:

27 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
28 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
29 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
30 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
31 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
32 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
33 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
34 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
35 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-

1 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
2 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
3 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 60.** A new section is added to chapter 19.225  
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
7 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
8 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
9 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
10 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
11 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
12 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
13 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
14 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
15 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
16 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
17 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 61.** A new section is added to chapter 21.20 RCW  
19 to read as follows:

20 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
21 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
22 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
23 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
24 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
25 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
26 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
27 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
28 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
29 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
30 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
31 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 62.** A new section is added to chapter 21.35 RCW  
33 to read as follows:

34 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
35 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall

1 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
2 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
3 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
4 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
5 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
6 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
7 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
8 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
9 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
10 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 63.** A new section is added to chapter 23B.08  
12 RCW to read as follows:

13 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
14 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
15 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
16 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
17 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
18 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
19 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
20 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
21 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
22 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
23 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
24 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 64.** A new section is added to chapter 23B.19  
26 RCW to read as follows:

27 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
28 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
29 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
30 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
31 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
32 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
33 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
34 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
35 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-

1 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
2 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
3 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 65.** A new section is added to chapter 26.09 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
7 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
8 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
9 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
10 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
11 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
12 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
13 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
14 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
15 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
16 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
17 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 66.** A new section is added to chapter 26.18 RCW  
19 to read as follows:

20 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
21 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
22 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
23 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
24 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
25 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
26 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
27 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
28 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
29 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
30 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
31 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 67.** A new section is added to chapter 26.26 RCW  
33 to read as follows:

34 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
35 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall



1 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
2 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
3 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
4 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
5 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
6 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
7 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
8 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
9 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
10 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 68.** A new section is added to chapter 26.27 RCW  
12 to read as follows:

13 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
14 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
15 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
16 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
17 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
18 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
19 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
20 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
21 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
22 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
23 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
24 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 69.** A new section is added to chapter 26.28 RCW  
26 to read as follows:

27 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
28 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
29 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
30 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
31 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
32 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
33 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
34 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
35 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-

1 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
2 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
3 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 70.** A new section is added to chapter 26.33 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
7 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
8 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
9 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
10 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
11 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
12 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
13 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
14 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
15 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
16 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
17 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

18 **Sec. 71.** RCW 26.60.040 and 2007 c 156 s 5 are each amended to read  
19 as follows:

20 (1) Two persons desiring to become state registered domestic  
21 partners who meet the requirements of RCW 26.60.030 may register their  
22 domestic partnership by filing a declaration of state registered  
23 domestic partnership with the secretary and paying the filing fee  
24 established pursuant to subsection (4) of this section. The  
25 declaration must be signed by both parties and notarized.

26 (2) Upon receipt of a signed, notarized declaration and the filing  
27 fee, the secretary shall register the declaration and provide a  
28 certificate of state registered domestic partnership to each party  
29 named on the declaration.

30 (3) The secretary shall permanently maintain a record of each  
31 declaration of state registered domestic partnership filed with the  
32 secretary. The secretary has the authority to update the records to  
33 reflect changes in the status of a state registered domestic  
34 partnership, such as a change of address, name, dissolution, or death.  
35 The secretary shall provide the state registrar of vital statistics  
36 with records of declarations of state registered domestic partnerships.

1 (4) The secretary shall set by rule and collect a reasonable fee  
2 for filing the declaration, calculated to cover the secretary's costs,  
3 but not to exceed fifty dollars. Fees collected under this section are  
4 expressly designated for deposit in the secretary of state's revolving  
5 fund established under RCW 43.07.130.

6 **Sec. 72.** RCW 26.60.090 and 2008 c 6 s 1101 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 A legal union of two persons of the same sex, other than a  
9 marriage, that was validly formed in another jurisdiction, and that is  
10 substantially equivalent to a domestic partnership under this chapter,  
11 shall be recognized as a valid domestic partnership in this state and  
12 shall be treated the same as a domestic partnership registered in this  
13 state regardless of whether it bears the name domestic partnership.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 73.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.10  
15 RCW to read as follows:

16 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
17 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
18 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
19 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
20 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
21 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
22 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
23 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
24 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
25 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
26 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
27 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 74.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.15  
29 RCW to read as follows:

30 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
31 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
32 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
33 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
34 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
35 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered

1 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
2 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
3 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
4 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
5 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
6 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. The rules and  
7 time periods to establish residency that apply to spouses of Washington  
8 residents shall apply equally to state registered domestic partners of  
9 Washington residents.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 75.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.50  
11 RCW to read as follows:

12 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
13 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
14 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
15 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
16 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
17 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
18 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
19 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
20 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
21 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
22 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
23 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 76.** A new section is added to chapter 30.22 RCW  
25 to read as follows:

26 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
27 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
28 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
29 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
30 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
31 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
32 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
33 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
34 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
35 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or

1 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
2 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 77.** A new section is added to chapter 31.12 RCW  
4 to read as follows:

5 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
6 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
7 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
8 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
9 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
10 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
11 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
12 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
13 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
14 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
15 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
16 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 78.** A new section is added to chapter 35.21 RCW  
18 to read as follows:

19 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
20 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
21 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
22 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
23 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
24 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
25 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
26 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
27 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
28 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
29 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
30 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 79.** A new section is added to chapter 35.54 RCW  
32 to read as follows:

33 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
34 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
35 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic

1 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
2 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
3 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
4 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
5 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
6 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
7 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
8 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
9 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 80.** A new section is added to chapter 35A.01  
11 RCW to read as follows:

12 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
13 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
14 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
15 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
16 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
17 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
18 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
19 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
20 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
21 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
22 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
23 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 81.** A new section is added to chapter 36.17 RCW  
25 to read as follows:

26 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
27 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
28 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
29 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
30 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
31 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
32 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
33 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
34 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
35 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or

1 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
2 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 82.** A new section is added to chapter 36.88 RCW  
4 to read as follows:

5 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
6 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
7 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
8 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
9 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
10 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
11 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
12 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
13 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
14 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
15 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
16 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 83.** A new section is added to chapter 38.42 RCW  
18 to read as follows:

19 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
20 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
21 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
22 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
23 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
24 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
25 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
26 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
27 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
28 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
29 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
30 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 84.** A new section is added to chapter 38.52 RCW  
32 to read as follows:

33 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
34 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
35 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic

1 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
2 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
3 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
4 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
5 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
6 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
7 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
8 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
9 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 85.** A new section is added to chapter 41.04 RCW  
11 to read as follows:

12 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
13 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
14 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
15 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
16 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
17 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
18 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
19 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
20 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
21 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
22 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
23 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 86.** A new section is added to chapter 41.06 RCW  
25 to read as follows:

26 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
27 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
28 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
29 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
30 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
31 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
32 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
33 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
34 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
35 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or



1 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
2 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 87.** A new section is added to chapter 41.16 RCW  
4 to read as follows:

5 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
6 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
7 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
8 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
9 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
10 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
11 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
12 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
13 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
14 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
15 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
16 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

17 **Sec. 88.** RCW 41.16.010 and 2007 c 218 s 18 are each amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 For the purpose of this chapter, unless clearly indicated by the  
20 context, words and phrases shall have the following meaning:

21 (1) "Beneficiary" shall mean any person or persons designated by a  
22 firefighter in a writing filed with the board, and who shall be  
23 entitled to receive any benefits of a deceased firefighter under this  
24 chapter.

25 (2) "Board" shall mean the municipal firefighters' pension board.

26 (3) "Child or children" shall mean a child or children unmarried  
27 and under eighteen years of age.

28 (4) "Contributions" shall mean and include all sums deducted from  
29 the salary of firefighters and paid into the fund as hereinafter  
30 provided.

31 (5) "Disability" shall mean and include injuries or sickness  
32 sustained as a result of the performance of duty.

33 (6) "Firefighter" shall mean any person regularly or temporarily,  
34 or as a substitute, employed and paid as a member of a fire department,  
35 who has passed a civil service examination for firefighter and who is

1 actively employed as a firefighter; and shall include any "prior  
2 firefighter."

3 (7) "Fire department" shall mean the regularly organized, full  
4 time, paid, and employed force of firefighters of the municipality.

5 (8) "Fund" shall mean the firefighters' pension fund created  
6 herein.

7 (9) "Municipality" shall mean every city and town having a  
8 regularly organized full time, paid, fire department employing  
9 firefighters.

10 (10) "Performance of duty" shall mean the performance of work and  
11 labor regularly required of firefighters and shall include services of  
12 an emergency nature rendered while off regular duty, but shall not  
13 include time spent in traveling to work before answering roll call or  
14 traveling from work after dismissal at roll call.

15 (11) "Prior firefighter" shall mean a firefighter who was actively  
16 employed as a firefighter of a fire department prior to the first day  
17 of January, 1947, and who continues such employment thereafter.

18 (12) "Retired firefighter" shall mean and include a person employed  
19 as a firefighter and retired under the provisions of chapter 50, Laws  
20 of 1909, as amended.

21 (13) "Widow or widower" means the surviving wife ((~~or~~)), husband,  
22 or state registered domestic partner of a retired firefighter who was  
23 retired on account of length of service and who was lawfully married  
24 to, or in a state registered domestic partnership with, such  
25 firefighter; and whenever that term is used with reference to the wife  
26 or former wife ((~~or~~)), husband or former husband, or current or former  
27 state registered domestic partner of a retired firefighter who was  
28 retired because of disability, it shall mean his or her lawfully  
29 married wife ((~~or~~)), husband, or state registered domestic partner  
30 the date he or she sustained the injury or contracted the illness that  
31 resulted in his or her disability. Said term shall not mean or include  
32 a surviving wife ((~~or~~)), husband, or state registered domestic partner  
33 who by process of law within one year prior to the retired  
34 firefighter's death, collected or attempted to collect from him or her  
35 funds for the support of herself or himself or for his or her children.

36 NEW SECTION. Sec. 89. A new section is added to chapter 41.18 RCW  
37 to read as follows:

1 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
2 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
3 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
4 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
5 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
6 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
7 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
8 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
9 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
10 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
11 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
12 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

13 **Sec. 90.** RCW 41.18.010 and 2007 c 218 s 41 are each amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 For the purpose of this chapter, unless clearly indicated otherwise  
16 by the context, words and phrases shall have the meaning hereinafter  
17 ascribed.

18 (1) "Beneficiary" shall mean any person or persons designated by a  
19 firefighter in a writing filed with the board, and who shall be  
20 entitled to receive any benefits of a deceased firefighter under this  
21 chapter.

22 (2) "Firefighter" means any person hereafter regularly or  
23 temporarily, or as a substitute newly employed and paid as a member of  
24 a fire department, who has passed a civil service examination for  
25 firefighters and who is actively employed as a firefighter or, if  
26 provided by the municipality by appropriate local legislation, as a  
27 fire dispatcher: PROVIDED, Nothing in chapter 209, Laws of 1969 ex.  
28 sess. shall impair or permit the impairment of any vested pension  
29 rights of persons who are employed as fire dispatchers at the time  
30 chapter 209, Laws of 1969 ex. sess. takes effect; and any person  
31 heretofore regularly or temporarily, or as a substitute, employed and  
32 paid as a member of a fire department, and who has contributed under  
33 and been covered by the provisions of chapter 41.16 RCW as now or  
34 hereafter amended and who has come under the provisions of this chapter  
35 in accordance with RCW 41.18.170 and who is actively engaged as a  
36 firefighter or as a member of the fire department as a firefighter or  
37 fire dispatcher.

1 (3) "Retired firefighter" means and includes a person employed as  
2 a firefighter and retired under the provisions of this chapter.

3 (4) "Basic salary" means the basic monthly salary, including  
4 longevity pay, attached to the rank held by the retired firefighter at  
5 the date of his or her retirement, without regard to extra compensation  
6 which such firefighter may have received for special duties assignments  
7 not acquired through civil service examination: PROVIDED, That such  
8 basic salary shall not be deemed to exceed the salary of a battalion  
9 chief.

10 (5) "Widow or widower" means the surviving spouse of a firefighter  
11 and shall include the surviving wife (~~(or)~~), husband, or state  
12 registered domestic partner of a firefighter, retired on account of  
13 length of service, who was lawfully married to, or in a state  
14 registered domestic partnership with, him or to her for a period of  
15 five years prior to the time of his or her retirement; and the  
16 surviving wife (~~(or)~~), husband, or state registered domestic partner of  
17 a firefighter, retired on account of disability, who was lawfully  
18 married to, or in a state registered domestic partnership with, him or  
19 her at and prior to the time he or she sustained the injury or  
20 contracted the illness resulting in his or her disability. The word  
21 shall not mean the divorced wife or husband or former state registered  
22 domestic partner of an active or retired firefighter.

23 (6) "Child" or "children" means a firefighter's child or children  
24 under the age of eighteen years, unmarried, and in the legal custody of  
25 such firefighter at the time of his death or her death.

26 (7) "Earned interest" means and includes all annual increments to  
27 the firefighters' pension fund from income earned by investment of the  
28 fund. The earned interest payable to any firefighter when he or she  
29 leaves the service and accepts his or her contributions, shall be that  
30 portion of the total earned income of the fund which is directly  
31 attributable to each individual firefighter's contributions. Earnings  
32 of the fund for the preceding year attributable to individual  
33 contributions shall be allocated to individual firefighters' accounts  
34 as of January 1st of each year.

35 (8) "Board" shall mean the municipal firefighters' pension board.

36 (9) "Contributions" shall mean and include all sums deducted from  
37 the salary of firefighters and paid into the fund as hereinafter  
38 provided.

1 (10) "Disability" shall mean and include injuries or sickness  
2 sustained by a firefighter.

3 (11) "Fire department" shall mean the regularly organized, full  
4 time, paid, and employed force of firefighters of the municipality.

5 (12) "Fund" shall have the same meaning as in RCW 41.16.010 as now  
6 or hereafter amended. Such fund shall be created in the manner and be  
7 subject to the provisions specified in chapter 41.16 RCW as now or  
8 hereafter amended.

9 (13) "Municipality" shall mean every city, town and fire protection  
10 district having a regularly organized full time, paid, fire department  
11 employing firefighters.

12 (14) "Performance of duty" shall mean the performance of work or  
13 labor regularly required of firefighters and shall include services of  
14 an emergency nature normally rendered while off regular duty.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 91.** A new section is added to chapter 41.20 RCW  
16 to read as follows:

17 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
18 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
19 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
20 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
21 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
22 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
23 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
24 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
25 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
26 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
27 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
28 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 92.** A new section is added to chapter 41.24 RCW  
30 to read as follows:

31 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
32 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
33 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
34 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
35 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
36 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered

1 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
2 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
3 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
4 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
5 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
6 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 93.** A new section is added to chapter 41.26 RCW  
8 to read as follows:

9 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
10 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
11 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
12 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
13 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
14 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
15 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
16 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
17 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
18 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
19 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
20 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 94.** A new section is added to chapter 41.28 RCW  
22 to read as follows:

23 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
24 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
25 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
26 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
27 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
28 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
29 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
30 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
31 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
32 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
33 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
34 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 95.**    A new section is added to chapter 41.32 RCW  
2 to read as follows:

3        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
4 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
5 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
6 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
7 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
8 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
9 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
10 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
11 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
12 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
13 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
14 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

15        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 96.**    A new section is added to chapter 41.34 RCW  
16 to read as follows:

17        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
18 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
19 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
20 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
21 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
22 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
23 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
24 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
25 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
26 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
27 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
28 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

29        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 97.**    A new section is added to chapter 41.35 RCW  
30 to read as follows:

31        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
32 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
33 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
34 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
35 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
36 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered

1 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
2 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
3 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
4 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
5 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
6 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 98.** A new section is added to chapter 41.37 RCW  
8 to read as follows:

9 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
10 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
11 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
12 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
13 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
14 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
15 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
16 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
17 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
18 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
19 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
20 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 99.** A new section is added to chapter 41.40 RCW  
22 to read as follows:

23 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
24 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
25 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
26 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
27 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
28 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
29 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
30 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
31 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
32 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
33 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
34 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.



1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 100.**    A new section is added to chapter 41.44  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
4    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
5    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
6    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
7    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
8    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
9    domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
10    invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
11    with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
12    specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
13    other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
14    individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

15        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 101.**    A new section is added to chapter 41.50  
16    RCW to read as follows:

17        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
18    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
19    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
20    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
21    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
22    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
23    domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
24    invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
25    with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
26    specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
27    other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
28    individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

29        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 102.**    A new section is added to chapter 41.54  
30    RCW to read as follows:

31        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
32    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
33    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
34    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
35    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
36    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered

1 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
2 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
3 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
4 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
5 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
6 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 103.** A new section is added to chapter 41.68  
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
10 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
11 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
12 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
13 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
14 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
15 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
16 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
17 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
18 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
19 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
20 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 104.** A new section is added to chapter 42.23  
22 RCW to read as follows:

23 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
24 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
25 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
26 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
27 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
28 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
29 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
30 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
31 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
32 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
33 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
34 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 105.**    A new section is added to chapter 42.52  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
4    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
5    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
6    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
7    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
8    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
9    domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
10    invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
11    with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
12    specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
13    other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
14    individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

15       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 106.**    A new section is added to chapter 43.20B  
16    RCW to read as follows:

17       For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
18    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
19    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
20    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
21    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
22    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
23    domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
24    invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
25    with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
26    specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
27    other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
28    individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

29       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 107.**    A new section is added to chapter 43.43  
30    RCW to read as follows:

31       For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
32    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
33    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
34    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
35    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
36    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered

1 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
2 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
3 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
4 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
5 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
6 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 108.** A new section is added to chapter 43.56  
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
10 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
11 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
12 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
13 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
14 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
15 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
16 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
17 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
18 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
19 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
20 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 109.** A new section is added to chapter 43.180  
22 RCW to read as follows:

23 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
24 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
25 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
26 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
27 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
28 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
29 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
30 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
31 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
32 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
33 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
34 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 110.**    A new section is added to chapter 43.215  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
4    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
5    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
6    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
7    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
8    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
9    domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
10    invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
11    with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
12    specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
13    other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
14    individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

15       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 111.**    A new section is added to chapter 43.235  
16    RCW to read as follows:

17       For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
18    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
19    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
20    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
21    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
22    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
23    domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
24    invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
25    with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
26    specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
27    other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
28    individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

29       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 112.**    A new section is added to chapter 46.04  
30    RCW to read as follows:

31       For the purposes of this title, the terms spouse, marriage,  
32    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
33    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
34    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
35    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
36    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered

1 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
2 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
3 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
4 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
5 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
6 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 113.** A new section is added to chapter 48.17  
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
10 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
11 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
12 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
13 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
14 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
15 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
16 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
17 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
18 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
19 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
20 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 114.** A new section is added to chapter 48.18  
22 RCW to read as follows:

23 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
24 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
25 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
26 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
27 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
28 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
29 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
30 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
31 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
32 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
33 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
34 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 115.**    A new section is added to chapter 48.20  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
4    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
5    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
6    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
7    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
8    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
9    domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
10    invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
11    with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
12    specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
13    other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
14    individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

15       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 116.**    A new section is added to chapter 48.21  
16    RCW to read as follows:

17       For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
18    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
19    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
20    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
21    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
22    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
23    domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
24    invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
25    with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
26    specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
27    other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
28    individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

29       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 117.**    A new section is added to chapter 48.21A  
30    RCW to read as follows:

31       For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
32    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
33    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
34    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
35    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
36    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered

1 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
2 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
3 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
4 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
5 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
6 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 118.** A new section is added to chapter 48.22  
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
10 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
11 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
12 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
13 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
14 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
15 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
16 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
17 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
18 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
19 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
20 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 119.** A new section is added to chapter 48.23  
22 RCW to read as follows:

23 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
24 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
25 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
26 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
27 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
28 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
29 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
30 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
31 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
32 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
33 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
34 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.



1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 120.**    A new section is added to chapter 48.24  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
4    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
5    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
6    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
7    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
8    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
9    domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
10    invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
11    with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
12    specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
13    other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
14    individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

15       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 121.**    A new section is added to chapter 48.25  
16    RCW to read as follows:

17       For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
18    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
19    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
20    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
21    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
22    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
23    domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
24    invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
25    with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
26    specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
27    other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
28    individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

29       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 122.**    A new section is added to chapter 48.29  
30    RCW to read as follows:

31       For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
32    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
33    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
34    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
35    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
36    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered

1 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
2 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
3 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
4 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
5 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
6 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 123.** A new section is added to chapter 48.30  
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
10 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
11 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
12 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
13 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
14 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
15 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
16 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
17 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
18 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
19 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
20 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 124.** A new section is added to chapter 48.41  
22 RCW to read as follows:

23 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
24 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
25 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
26 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
27 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
28 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
29 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
30 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
31 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
32 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
33 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
34 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 125.**    A new section is added to chapter 48.43  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
4    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
5    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
6    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
7    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
8    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
9    domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
10    invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
11    with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
12    specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
13    other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
14    individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

15        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 126.**    A new section is added to chapter 48.44  
16    RCW to read as follows:

17        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
18    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
19    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
20    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
21    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
22    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
23    domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
24    invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
25    with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
26    specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
27    other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
28    individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

29        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 127.**    A new section is added to chapter 48.46  
30    RCW to read as follows:

31        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
32    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
33    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
34    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
35    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
36    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered

1 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
2 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
3 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
4 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
5 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
6 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 128.** A new section is added to chapter 48.66  
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
10 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
11 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
12 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
13 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
14 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
15 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
16 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
17 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
18 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
19 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
20 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 129.** A new section is added to chapter 48.76  
22 RCW to read as follows:

23 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
24 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
25 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
26 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
27 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
28 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
29 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
30 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
31 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
32 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
33 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
34 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 130.**    A new section is added to chapter 49.12  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
4    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
5    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
6    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
7    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
8    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
9    domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
10    invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
11    with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
12    specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
13    other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
14    individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

15       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 131.**    A new section is added to chapter 49.48  
16    RCW to read as follows:

17       For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
18    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
19    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
20    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
21    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
22    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
23    domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
24    invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
25    with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
26    specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
27    other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
28    individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

29       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 132.**    A new section is added to chapter 49.74  
30    RCW to read as follows:

31       For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
32    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
33    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
34    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
35    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
36    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered

1 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
2 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
3 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
4 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
5 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
6 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 133.** A new section is added to chapter 49.77  
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
10 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
11 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
12 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
13 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
14 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
15 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
16 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
17 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
18 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
19 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
20 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 134.** A new section is added to chapter 49.78  
22 RCW to read as follows:

23 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
24 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
25 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
26 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
27 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
28 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
29 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
30 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
31 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
32 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
33 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
34 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

1       **Sec. 135.** RCW 49.78.020 and 2006 c 59 s 2 are each amended to read  
2 as follows:

3       Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in  
4 this section apply throughout this chapter.

5       (1) "Child" means a biological, adopted, or foster child, a  
6 stepchild, a legal ward, or a child of a person standing in loco  
7 parentis, who is: (a) Under eighteen years of age; or (b) eighteen  
8 years of age or older and incapable of self-care because of a mental or  
9 physical disability.

10       (2) "Department" means the department of labor and industries.

11       (3) "Director" means the director of the department.

12       (4)(a) "Employee" means a person who has been employed: (i) For at  
13 least twelve months by the employer with respect to whom leave is  
14 requested under RCW 49.78.220; and (ii) for at least one thousand two  
15 hundred fifty hours of service with the employer during the previous  
16 twelve-month period.

17       (b) "Employee" does not mean a person who is employed at a worksite  
18 at which the employer as defined in (a) of this subsection employs less  
19 than fifty employees if the total number of employees employed by that  
20 employer within seventy-five miles of that worksite is less than fifty.

21       (5) "Employer" means: (a) Any person, firm, corporation,  
22 partnership, business trust, legal representative, or other business  
23 entity which engages in any business, industry, profession, or activity  
24 in this state and includes any unit of local government including, but  
25 not limited to, a county, city, town, municipal corporation, quasi-  
26 municipal corporation, or political subdivision, which employs fifty or  
27 more employees for each working day during each of twenty or more  
28 calendar workweeks in the current or preceding calendar year; (b) the  
29 state, state institutions, and state agencies; and (c) any unit of  
30 local government including, but not limited to, a county, city, town,  
31 municipal corporation, quasi-municipal corporation, or political  
32 subdivision.

33       (6) "Employment benefits" means all benefits provided or made  
34 available to employees by an employer, including group life insurance,  
35 health insurance, disability insurance, sick leave, annual leave,  
36 educational benefits, and pensions except benefits that are provided by  
37 a practice or written policy of an employer or through an employee  
38 benefit plan as defined in 29 U.S.C. Sec. 1002(3).

1 (7) "Family member" means a child, parent, (~~or~~) spouse, or state  
2 registered domestic partner of an employee.

3 (8) "Health care provider" means: (a) A person licensed as a  
4 physician under chapter 18.71 RCW or an osteopathic physician and  
5 surgeon under chapter 18.57 RCW; (b) a person licensed as an advanced  
6 registered nurse practitioner under chapter 18.79 RCW; or (c) any other  
7 person determined by the director to be capable of providing health  
8 care services.

9 (9) "Intermittent leave" is leave taken in separate blocks of time  
10 due to a single qualifying reason.

11 (10) "Leave for a family member's serious health condition" means  
12 leave as described in RCW 49.78.220(1)(c).

13 (11) "Leave for the birth or placement of a child" means leave as  
14 described in RCW 49.78.220(1) (a) or (b).

15 (12) "Leave for the employee's serious health condition" means  
16 leave as described in RCW 49.78.220(1)(d).

17 (13) "Parent" means the biological or adoptive parent of an  
18 employee or an individual who stood in loco parentis to an employee  
19 when the employee was a child.

20 (14) "Period of incapacity" means an inability to work, attend  
21 school, or perform other regular daily activities because of the  
22 serious health condition, treatment of that condition or recovery from  
23 it, or subsequent treatment in connection with such inpatient care.

24 (15) "Reduced leave schedule" means a leave schedule that reduces  
25 the usual number of hours per workweek, or hours per workday, of an  
26 employee.

27 (16)(a) "Serious health condition" means an illness, injury,  
28 impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves:

29 (i) Inpatient care in a hospital, hospice, or residential medical  
30 care facility, including any period of incapacity; or

31 (ii) Continuing treatment by a health care provider. A serious  
32 health condition involving continuing treatment by a health care  
33 provider includes any one or more of the following:

34 (A) A period of incapacity of more than three consecutive calendar  
35 days, and any subsequent treatment or period of incapacity relating to  
36 the same condition, that also involves:

37 (I) Treatment two or more times by a health care provider, by a



1 nurse or physician's assistant under direct supervision of a health  
2 care provider, or by a provider of health care services under orders  
3 of, or on referral by, a health care provider; or

4 (II) Treatment by a health care provider on at least one occasion  
5 which results in a regimen of continuing treatment under the  
6 supervision of the health care provider;

7 (B) Any period of incapacity due to pregnancy, or for prenatal  
8 care;

9 (C) Any period of incapacity or treatment for such incapacity due  
10 to a chronic serious health condition. A chronic serious health  
11 condition is one which:

12 (I) Requires periodic visits for treatment by a health care  
13 provider, or by a nurse or physician's assistant under direct  
14 supervision of a health care provider;

15 (II) Continues over an extended period of time, including recurring  
16 episodes of a single underlying condition; and

17 (III) May cause episodic rather than a continuing period of  
18 incapacity;

19 (D) A period of incapacity which is permanent or long-term due to  
20 a condition for which treatment may not be effective. The employee or  
21 family member must be under the continuing supervision of, but need not  
22 be receiving active treatment by, a health care provider; or

23 (E) Any period of absence to receive multiple treatments, including  
24 any period of recovery from the treatments, by a health care provider  
25 or by a provider of health care services under orders of, or on  
26 referral by, a health care provider, either for restorative surgery  
27 after an accident or other injury, or for a condition that would likely  
28 result in a period of incapacity of more than three consecutive  
29 calendar days in the absence of medical intervention or treatment, such  
30 as cancer, severe arthritis, or kidney disease.

31 (b) Treatment for purposes of (a) of this subsection includes, but  
32 is not limited to, examinations to determine if a serious health  
33 condition exists and evaluations of the condition. Treatment does not  
34 include routine physical examinations, eye examinations, or dental  
35 examinations. Under (a)(ii)(A)(II) of this subsection, a regimen of  
36 continuing treatment includes, but is not limited to, a course of  
37 prescription medication or therapy requiring special equipment to  
38 resolve or alleviate the health condition. A regimen of continuing

1 treatment that includes taking over-the-counter medications, such as  
2 aspirin, antihistamines, or salves, or bed-rest, drinking fluids,  
3 exercise, and other similar activities that can be initiated without a  
4 visit to a health care provider, is not, by itself, sufficient to  
5 constitute a regimen of continuing treatment for purposes of this  
6 chapter.

7 (c) Conditions for which cosmetic treatments are administered are  
8 not "serious health conditions" unless inpatient hospital care is  
9 required or unless complications develop. Unless complications arise,  
10 the common cold, the flu, ear aches, upset stomach, minor ulcers,  
11 headaches other than migraine, routine dental or orthodontia problems,  
12 and periodontal disease are examples of conditions that do not meet the  
13 definition of a "serious health condition" and do not qualify for leave  
14 under this chapter. Restorative dental or plastic surgery after an  
15 injury or removal of cancerous growths are serious health conditions  
16 provided all the other conditions of this section are met. Mental  
17 illness resulting from stress or allergies may be serious health  
18 conditions provided all the other conditions of this section are met.

19 (d) Substance abuse may be a serious health condition if the  
20 conditions of this section are met. However, leave may only be taken  
21 for treatment for substance abuse by a health care provider or by a  
22 provider of health care services upon referral by a health care  
23 provider. Absence from work because of the employee's use of the  
24 substance, rather than for treatment, does not qualify for leave under  
25 this chapter.

26 (e) Absences attributable to incapacity under (a)(ii)(B) or (C) of  
27 this subsection qualify for leave under this chapter even though the  
28 employee or the immediate family member does not receive treatment from  
29 a health care provider during the absence, and even if the absence does  
30 not last more than three days.

31 (17) "Spouse" means a husband or wife, as the case may be, or state  
32 registered domestic partner.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 136.** A new section is added to chapter 49.86  
34 RCW to read as follows:

35 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
36 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
37 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic

1 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
2 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
3 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
4 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
5 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
6 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
7 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
8 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
9 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 137.** A new section is added to chapter 50.04  
11 RCW to read as follows:

12 For the purposes of this title, the terms spouse, marriage,  
13 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
14 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
15 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
16 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
17 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
18 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
19 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
20 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
21 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
22 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
23 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 138.** A new section is added to chapter 51.08  
25 RCW to read as follows:

26 For the purposes of this title, the terms spouse, marriage,  
27 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
28 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
29 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
30 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
31 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
32 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
33 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
34 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
35 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or

1 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
2 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 139.** A new section is added to chapter 59.18  
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
6 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
7 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
8 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
9 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
10 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
11 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
12 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
13 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
14 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
15 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
16 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 140.** A new section is added to chapter 59.20  
18 RCW to read as follows:

19 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
20 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
21 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
22 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
23 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
24 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
25 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
26 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
27 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
28 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
29 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
30 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 141.** A new section is added to chapter 59.21  
32 RCW to read as follows:

33 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
34 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
35 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic

1 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
2 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
3 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
4 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
5 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
6 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
7 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
8 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
9 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 142.** A new section is added to chapter 59.22  
11 RCW to read as follows:

12 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
13 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
14 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
15 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
16 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
17 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
18 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
19 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
20 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
21 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
22 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
23 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 143.** A new section is added to chapter 62A.1  
25 RCW to read as follows:

26 For the purposes of this title, the terms spouse, marriage,  
27 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
28 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
29 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
30 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
31 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
32 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
33 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
34 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
35 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or

1 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
2 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 144.** A new section is added to chapter 65.12  
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
6 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
7 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
8 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
9 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
10 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
11 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
12 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
13 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
14 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
15 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
16 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

17 **Sec. 145.** RCW 65.12.035 and 1907 c 250 s 7 are each amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 The form of application may, with appropriate changes, be  
20 substantially as follows:

21 FORM OF APPLICATION FOR  
22 INITIAL REGISTRATION OF TITLE TO LAND

23 State of Washington }  
24 } ss.  
25 County of ....., }  
26 In the superior court of the state of Washington in and for  
27 ..... county.

28 In the matter of the }  
29 application of ..... }  
30 to register the title } PETITION  
31 to the land hereinafter }  
32 described }

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35

To the Honorable . . . . ., judge of said court: I hereby  
make application to have registered the title to the land  
hereinafter described, and do solemnly swear that the  
answers to the questions herewith, and the statements herein  
contained, are true to the best of my knowledge,  
information and belief.

First. Name of applicant, . . . . ., age, . . . . years.  
Residence, . . . . . (number and street, if any).  
Married to or in a state registered domestic partnership with  
. . . . . (name of husband ((~~or~~)), wife, or state registered  
domestic partner).

Second. Applications made by . . . . ., acting as  
. . . . . (owner, agent or attorney). Residence,  
. . . . . (number, street).

Third. Description of real estate is as follows:  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
estate or interest therein is . . . . . and . . . . . subject to  
homestead.

Fourth. The land is . . . . . occupied by . . . . .  
(names of occupants), whose address is . . . . .  
(number street and town or city). The estate, interest or  
claim of occupant is . . . . .

Fifth. Liens and incumbrances on the land . . . . .  
Name of holder or owner thereof is . . . . . Whose post  
office address is . . . . . Amount of claim, \$. . . . .  
Recorded, Book . . . . ., page . . . . ., of the records of said  
county.

Sixth. Other persons, firm or corporation having or  
claiming any estate, interest or claim in law or equity, in  
possession, remainder, reversion or expectancy in said land  
are . . . . . whose addresses are . . . . . respectively.  
Character of estate, interest or claim is . . . . .

1 Seventh. Other facts connected with said land and  
2 appropriate to be considered in this registration proceeding  
3 are . . . . .

4 Eighth. Therefore, the applicant prays this honorable  
5 court to find or declare the title or interest of the applicant  
6 in said land and decree the same, and order the registrar of  
7 titles to register the same and to grant such other and further  
8 relief as may be proper in the premises.

9  
10 . . . . .  
(Applicant's signature)

11 By . . . . ., agent, attorney, administrator or guardian.  
12 Subscribed and sworn to before me this . . . . day of  
13 . . . . ., A.D. 19. . .

14 . . . . .  
15 Notary Public in and for the state  
16 of Washington, residing at . . . . .

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 146.** A new section is added to chapter 66.24  
18 RCW to read as follows:

19 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
20 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
21 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
22 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
23 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
24 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
25 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
26 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
27 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
28 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
29 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
30 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 147.** A new section is added to chapter 67.70  
32 RCW to read as follows:

33 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
34 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
35 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
36 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships



1 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
2 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
3 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
4 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
5 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
6 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
7 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
8 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 148.** A new section is added to chapter 68.04  
10 RCW to read as follows:

11 For the purposes of this title, the terms spouse, marriage,  
12 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
13 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
14 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
15 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
16 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
17 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
18 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
19 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
20 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
21 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
22 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 149.** A new section is added to chapter 70.02  
24 RCW to read as follows:

25 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
26 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
27 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
28 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
29 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
30 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
31 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
32 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
33 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
34 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
35 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
36 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 150.**    A new section is added to chapter 70.24  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
4    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
5    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
6    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
7    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
8    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
9    domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
10    invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
11    with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
12    specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
13    other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
14    individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

15       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 151.**    A new section is added to chapter 70.47  
16    RCW to read as follows:

17       For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
18    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
19    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
20    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
21    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
22    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
23    domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
24    invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
25    with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
26    specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
27    other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
28    individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

29       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 152.**    A new section is added to chapter 70.47A  
30    RCW to read as follows:

31       For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
32    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
33    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
34    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
35    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
36    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered

1 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
2 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
3 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
4 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
5 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
6 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 153.** A new section is added to chapter 70.58  
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
10 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
11 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
12 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
13 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
14 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
15 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
16 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
17 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
18 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
19 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
20 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 154.** A new section is added to chapter 70.122  
22 RCW to read as follows:

23 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
24 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
25 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
26 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
27 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
28 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
29 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
30 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
31 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
32 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
33 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
34 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

1        NEW SECTION. Sec. 155. A new section is added to chapter 70.128  
2 RCW to read as follows:

3        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
4 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
5 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
6 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
7 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
8 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
9 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
10 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
11 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
12 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
13 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
14 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

15        NEW SECTION. Sec. 156. A new section is added to chapter 70.190  
16 RCW to read as follows:

17        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
18 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
19 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
20 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
21 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
22 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
23 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
24 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
25 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
26 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
27 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
28 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

29        NEW SECTION. Sec. 157. A new section is added to chapter 71.05  
30 RCW to read as follows:

31        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
32 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
33 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
34 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
35 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
36 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered

1 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
2 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
3 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
4 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
5 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
6 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

7 **Sec. 158.** RCW 71.05.425 and 2008 c 213 s 10 are each amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 (1)(a) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, at the  
10 earliest possible date, and in no event later than thirty days before  
11 conditional release, final release, authorized leave under RCW  
12 71.05.325(2), or transfer to a facility other than a state mental  
13 hospital, the superintendent shall send written notice of conditional  
14 release, release, authorized leave, or transfer of a person committed  
15 under RCW 71.05.280(3) or 71.05.320(3)(c) following dismissal of a sex,  
16 violent, or felony harassment offense pursuant to RCW 10.77.086(4) to  
17 the following:

18 (i) The chief of police of the city, if any, in which the person  
19 will reside; and

20 (ii) The sheriff of the county in which the person will reside.

21 (b) The same notice as required by (a) of this subsection shall be  
22 sent to the following, if such notice has been requested in writing  
23 about a specific person committed under RCW 71.05.280(3) or  
24 71.05.320(3)(c) following dismissal of a sex, violent, or felony  
25 harassment offense pursuant to RCW 10.77.086(4):

26 (i) The victim of the sex, violent, or felony harassment offense  
27 that was dismissed pursuant to RCW 10.77.086(4) preceding commitment  
28 under RCW 71.05.280(3) or 71.05.320(3)(c) or the victim's next of kin  
29 if the crime was a homicide;

30 (ii) Any witnesses who testified against the person in any court  
31 proceedings; and

32 (iii) Any person specified in writing by the prosecuting attorney.  
33 Information regarding victims, next of kin, or witnesses requesting the  
34 notice, information regarding any other person specified in writing by  
35 the prosecuting attorney to receive the notice, and the notice are  
36 confidential and shall not be available to the person committed under  
37 this chapter.

1 (c) The thirty-day notice requirements contained in this subsection  
2 shall not apply to emergency medical transfers.

3 (d) The existence of the notice requirements in this subsection  
4 will not require any extension of the release date in the event the  
5 release plan changes after notification.

6 (2) If a person committed under RCW 71.05.280(3) or 71.05.320(3)(c)  
7 following dismissal of a sex, violent, or felony harassment offense  
8 pursuant to RCW 10.77.086(4) escapes, the superintendent shall  
9 immediately notify, by the most reasonable and expedient means  
10 available, the chief of police of the city and the sheriff of the  
11 county in which the person resided immediately before the person's  
12 arrest. If previously requested, the superintendent shall also notify  
13 the witnesses and the victim of the sex, violent, or felony harassment  
14 offense that was dismissed pursuant to RCW 10.77.086(4) preceding  
15 commitment under RCW 71.05.280(3) or 71.05.320(3) or the victim's next  
16 of kin if the crime was a homicide. In addition, the secretary shall  
17 also notify appropriate parties pursuant to RCW 71.05.390(18). If the  
18 person is recaptured, the superintendent shall send notice to the  
19 persons designated in this subsection as soon as possible but in no  
20 event later than two working days after the department learns of such  
21 recapture.

22 (3) If the victim, the victim's next of kin, or any witness is  
23 under the age of sixteen, the notice required by this section shall be  
24 sent to the parent or legal guardian of the child.

25 (4) The superintendent shall send the notices required by this  
26 chapter to the last address provided to the department by the  
27 requesting party. The requesting party shall furnish the department  
28 with a current address.

29 (5) For purposes of this section the following terms have the  
30 following meanings:

31 (a) "Violent offense" means a violent offense under RCW 9.94A.030;

32 (b) "Sex offense" means a sex offense under RCW 9.94A.030;

33 (c) "Next of kin" means a person's spouse, state registered  
34 domestic partner, parents, siblings, and children;

35 (d) "Felony harassment offense" means a crime of harassment as  
36 defined in RCW 9A.46.060 that is a felony.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 159.**    A new section is added to chapter 71.09  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
4    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
5    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
6    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
7    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
8    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
9    domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
10    invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
11    with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
12    specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
13    other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
14    individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

15       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 160.**    A new section is added to chapter 71.12  
16    RCW to read as follows:

17       For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
18    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
19    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
20    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
21    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
22    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
23    domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
24    invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
25    with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
26    specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
27    other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
28    individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

29       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 161.**    A new section is added to chapter 71.32  
30    RCW to read as follows:

31       For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
32    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
33    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
34    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
35    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
36    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered

1 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
2 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
3 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
4 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
5 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
6 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 162.** A new section is added to chapter 71A.20  
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
10 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
11 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
12 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
13 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
14 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
15 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
16 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
17 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
18 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
19 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
20 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 163.** A new section is added to chapter 72.01  
22 RCW to read as follows:

23 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
24 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
25 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
26 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
27 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
28 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
29 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
30 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
31 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
32 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
33 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
34 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.



1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 164.**    A new section is added to chapter 72.09  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
4    marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
5    be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
6    partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
7    as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
8    to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
9    domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
10    invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
11    with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
12    specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
13    other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
14    individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

15        **Sec. 165.**    RCW 72.09.015 and 2008 c 231 s 47 are each amended to  
16    read as follows:

17        The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

18        (1) "Adult basic education" means education or instruction designed  
19    to achieve general competence of skills in reading, writing, and oral  
20    communication, including English as a second language and preparation  
21    and testing services for obtaining a high school diploma or a general  
22    equivalency diploma.

23        (2) "Base level of correctional services" means the minimum level  
24    of field services the department of corrections is required by statute  
25    to provide for the supervision and monitoring of offenders.

26        (3) "Community custody" has the same meaning as that provided in  
27    RCW 9.94A.030 and also includes community placement and community  
28    supervision as defined in RCW 9.94B.020.

29        (4) "Contraband" means any object or communication the secretary  
30    determines shall not be allowed to be: (a) Brought into; (b) possessed  
31    while on the grounds of; or (c) sent from any institution under the  
32    control of the secretary.

33        (5) "County" means a county or combination of counties.

34        (6) "Department" means the department of corrections.

35        (7) "Earned early release" means earned release as authorized by  
36    RCW 9.94A.728.

1 (8) "Evidence-based" means a program or practice that has had  
2 multiple-site random controlled trials across heterogeneous populations  
3 demonstrating that the program or practice is effective in reducing  
4 recidivism for the population.

5 (9) "Extended family visit" means an authorized visit between an  
6 inmate and a member of his or her immediate family that occurs in a  
7 private visiting unit located at the correctional facility where the  
8 inmate is confined.

9 (10) "Good conduct" means compliance with department rules and  
10 policies.

11 (11) "Good performance" means successful completion of a program  
12 required by the department, including an education, work, or other  
13 program.

14 (12) "Immediate family" means the inmate's children, stepchildren,  
15 grandchildren, great grandchildren, parents, stepparents, grandparents,  
16 great grandparents, siblings, and a person legally married to or in a  
17 state registered domestic partnership with an inmate. "Immediate  
18 family" does not include an inmate adopted by another inmate or the  
19 immediate family of the adopted or adopting inmate.

20 (13) "Indigent inmate," "indigent," and "indigency" mean an inmate  
21 who has less than a ten-dollar balance of disposable income in his or  
22 her institutional account on the day a request is made to utilize funds  
23 and during the thirty days previous to the request.

24 (14) "Individual reentry plan" means the plan to prepare an  
25 offender for release into the community. It should be developed  
26 collaboratively between the department and the offender and based on an  
27 assessment of the offender using a standardized and comprehensive tool  
28 to identify the offender's risks and needs. The individual reentry  
29 plan describes actions that should occur to prepare individual  
30 offenders for release from prison or jail, specifies the supervision  
31 and services they will experience in the community, and describes an  
32 offender's eventual discharge to aftercare upon successful completion  
33 of supervision. An individual reentry plan is updated throughout the  
34 period of an offender's incarceration and supervision to be relevant to  
35 the offender's current needs and risks.

36 (15) "Inmate" means a person committed to the custody of the  
37 department, including but not limited to persons residing in a  
38 correctional institution or facility and persons released from such

1 facility on furlough, work release, or community custody, and persons  
2 received from another state, state agency, county, or federal  
3 jurisdiction.

4 (16) "Privilege" means any goods or services, education or work  
5 programs, or earned early release days, the receipt of which are  
6 directly linked to an inmate's (a) good conduct; and (b) good  
7 performance. Privileges do not include any goods or services the  
8 department is required to provide under the state or federal  
9 Constitution or under state or federal law.

10 (17) "Promising practice" means a practice that presents, based on  
11 preliminary information, potential for becoming a research-based or  
12 consensus-based practice.

13 (18) "Research-based" means a program or practice that has some  
14 research demonstrating effectiveness, but that does not yet meet the  
15 standard of evidence-based practices.

16 (19) "Secretary" means the secretary of corrections or his or her  
17 designee.

18 (20) "Significant expansion" includes any expansion into a new  
19 product line or service to the class I business that results from an  
20 increase in benefits provided by the department, including a decrease  
21 in labor costs, rent, or utility rates (for water, sewer, electricity,  
22 and disposal), an increase in work program space, tax advantages, or  
23 other overhead costs.

24 (21) "Superintendent" means the superintendent of a correctional  
25 facility under the jurisdiction of the Washington state department of  
26 corrections, or his or her designee.

27 (22) "Unfair competition" means any net competitive advantage that  
28 a business may acquire as a result of a correctional industries  
29 contract, including labor costs, rent, tax advantages, utility rates  
30 (water, sewer, electricity, and disposal), and other overhead costs.  
31 To determine net competitive advantage, the correctional industries  
32 board shall review and quantify any expenses unique to operating a for-  
33 profit business inside a prison.

34 (23) "Vocational training" or "vocational education" means  
35 "vocational education" as defined in RCW 72.62.020.

36 (24) "Washington business" means an in-state manufacturer or  
37 service provider subject to chapter 82.04 RCW existing on June 10,  
38 2004.

1 (25) "Work programs" means all classes of correctional industries  
2 jobs authorized under RCW 72.09.100.

3 **Sec. 166.** RCW 72.09.712 and 2008 c 231 s 27 are each amended to  
4 read as follows:

5 (1) At the earliest possible date, and in no event later than  
6 thirty days before release except in the event of escape or emergency  
7 furloughs as defined in RCW 72.66.010, the department of corrections  
8 shall send written notice of parole, release, community custody, work  
9 release placement, furlough, or escape about a specific inmate  
10 convicted of a violent offense, a sex offense as defined by RCW  
11 9.94A.030, or a felony harassment offense as defined by RCW 9A.46.060  
12 or 9A.46.110, to the following:

13 (a) The chief of police of the city, if any, in which the inmate  
14 will reside or in which placement will be made in a work release  
15 program; and

16 (b) The sheriff of the county in which the inmate will reside or in  
17 which placement will be made in a work release program.

18 The sheriff of the county where the offender was convicted shall be  
19 notified if the department does not know where the offender will  
20 reside. The department shall notify the state patrol of the release of  
21 all sex offenders, and that information shall be placed in the  
22 Washington crime information center for dissemination to all law  
23 enforcement.

24 (2) The same notice as required by subsection (1) of this section  
25 shall be sent to the following if such notice has been requested in  
26 writing about a specific inmate convicted of a violent offense, a sex  
27 offense as defined by RCW 9.94A.030, or a felony harassment offense as  
28 defined by RCW 9A.46.060 or 9A.46.110:

29 (a) The victim of the crime for which the inmate was convicted or  
30 the victim's next of kin if the crime was a homicide;

31 (b) Any witnesses who testified against the inmate in any court  
32 proceedings involving the violent offense;

33 (c) Any person specified in writing by the prosecuting attorney;  
34 and

35 (d) Any person who requests such notice about a specific inmate  
36 convicted of a sex offense as defined by RCW 9.94A.030 from the

1 department of corrections at least sixty days prior to the expected  
2 release date of the offender.

3 Information regarding victims, next of kin, or witnesses requesting  
4 the notice, information regarding any other person specified in writing  
5 by the prosecuting attorney to receive the notice, and the notice are  
6 confidential and shall not be available to the inmate. Whenever the  
7 department of corrections mails notice pursuant to this subsection and  
8 the notice is returned as undeliverable, the department shall attempt  
9 alternative methods of notification, including a telephone call to the  
10 person's last known telephone number.

11 (3) The existence of the notice requirements contained in  
12 subsections (1) and (2) of this section shall not require an extension  
13 of the release date in the event that the release plan changes after  
14 notification.

15 (4) If an inmate convicted of a violent offense, a sex offense as  
16 defined by RCW 9.94A.030, or a felony harassment offense as defined by  
17 RCW 9A.46.060 or 9A.46.110, escapes from a correctional facility, the  
18 department of corrections shall immediately notify, by the most  
19 reasonable and expedient means available, the chief of police of the  
20 city and the sheriff of the county in which the inmate resided  
21 immediately before the inmate's arrest and conviction. If previously  
22 requested, the department shall also notify the witnesses and the  
23 victim of the crime for which the inmate was convicted or the victim's  
24 next of kin if the crime was a homicide. If the inmate is recaptured,  
25 the department shall send notice to the persons designated in this  
26 subsection as soon as possible but in no event later than two working  
27 days after the department learns of such recapture.

28 (5) If the victim, the victim's next of kin, or any witness is  
29 under the age of sixteen, the notice required by this section shall be  
30 sent to the parents or legal guardian of the child.

31 (6) The department of corrections shall send the notices required  
32 by this chapter to the last address provided to the department by the  
33 requesting party. The requesting party shall furnish the department  
34 with a current address.

35 (7) The department of corrections shall keep, for a minimum of two  
36 years following the release of an inmate, the following:

37 (a) A document signed by an individual as proof that that person is  
38 registered in the victim or witness notification program; and

1 (b) A receipt showing that an individual registered in the victim  
2 or witness notification program was mailed a notice, at the  
3 individual's last known address, upon the release or movement of an  
4 inmate.

5 (8) For purposes of this section the following terms have the  
6 following meanings:

7 (a) "Violent offense" means a violent offense under RCW 9.94A.030;

8 (b) "Next of kin" means a person's spouse, state registered  
9 domestic partner, parents, siblings and children.

10 (9) Nothing in this section shall impose any liability upon a chief  
11 of police of a city or sheriff of a county for failing to request in  
12 writing a notice as provided in subsection (1) of this section.

13 NEW SECTION. Sec. 167. A new section is added to chapter 72.23  
14 RCW to read as follows:

15 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
16 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
17 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
18 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
19 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
20 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
21 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
22 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
23 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
24 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
25 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
26 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

27 NEW SECTION. Sec. 168. A new section is added to chapter 72.36  
28 RCW to read as follows:

29 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
30 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
31 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
32 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
33 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
34 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
35 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
36 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict

1 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
2 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
3 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
4 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

5 **Sec. 169.** RCW 72.36.115 and 2007 c 43 s 2 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 (1) The department shall establish and maintain in this state an  
8 eastern Washington state veterans' cemetery.

9 (2) All honorably discharged veterans, as defined by RCW 41.04.007,  
10 and their spouses or state registered domestic partners are eligible  
11 for interment in the eastern Washington state veterans' cemetery.

12 (3) The department shall collect all federal veterans' burial  
13 benefits and other available state or county resources.

14 (4) The department shall adopt rules defining the services  
15 available, eligibility, fees, and the general operations associated  
16 with the eastern Washington state veterans' cemetery.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 170.** A new section is added to chapter 72.64  
18 RCW to read as follows:

19 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
20 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
21 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
22 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
23 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
24 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
25 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
26 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
27 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
28 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
29 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
30 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 171.** A new section is added to chapter 72.66  
32 RCW to read as follows:

33 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
34 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
35 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic

1 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
2 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
3 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
4 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
5 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
6 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
7 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
8 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
9 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 172.** A new section is added to chapter 73.16  
11 RCW to read as follows:

12 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
13 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
14 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
15 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
16 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
17 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
18 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
19 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
20 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
21 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
22 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
23 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 173.** A new section is added to chapter 74.04  
25 RCW to read as follows:

26 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
27 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
28 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
29 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
30 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
31 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
32 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
33 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
34 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
35 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or



1 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
2 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 174.** A new section is added to chapter 74.08A  
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
6 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
7 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
8 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
9 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
10 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
11 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
12 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
13 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
14 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
15 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
16 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 175.** A new section is added to chapter 74.09  
18 RCW to read as follows:

19 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
20 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
21 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
22 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
23 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
24 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
25 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
26 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
27 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
28 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
29 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
30 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 176.** A new section is added to chapter 74.09A  
32 RCW to read as follows:

33 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
34 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
35 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic

1 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
2 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
3 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
4 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
5 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
6 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
7 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
8 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
9 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 177.** A new section is added to chapter 74.13  
11 RCW to read as follows:

12 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
13 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
14 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
15 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
16 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
17 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
18 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
19 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
20 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
21 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
22 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
23 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. Nothing in this  
24 act shall be construed as creating or requiring the creation of any  
25 medical assistance program, as that term is defined in RCW 74.09.010,  
26 for state registered domestic partners that is analogous to federal  
27 medical assistance programs extended to married persons.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 178.** A new section is added to chapter 74.15  
29 RCW to read as follows:

30 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
31 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
32 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
33 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
34 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
35 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
36 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or

1 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
2 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
3 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
4 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
5 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. Nothing in this  
6 act shall be construed as creating or requiring the creation of any  
7 medical assistance program, as that term is defined in RCW 74.09.010,  
8 for state registered domestic partners that is analogous to federal  
9 medical assistance programs extended to married persons.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 179.** A new section is added to chapter 74.20  
11 RCW to read as follows:

12 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
13 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
14 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
15 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
16 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
17 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
18 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
19 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
20 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
21 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
22 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
23 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 180.** A new section is added to chapter 74.20A  
25 RCW to read as follows:

26 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
27 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
28 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
29 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
30 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
31 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
32 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
33 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
34 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
35 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or

1 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
2 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 181.** A new section is added to chapter 74.34  
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
6 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
7 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
8 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
9 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
10 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
11 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
12 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
13 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
14 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
15 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
16 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 182.** A new section is added to chapter 74.41  
18 RCW to read as follows:

19 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
20 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
21 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
22 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
23 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
24 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
25 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
26 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
27 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
28 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
29 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
30 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 183.** A new section is added to chapter 77.08  
32 RCW to read as follows:

33 For the purposes of this title, the terms spouse, marriage,  
34 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
35 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic

1 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
2 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
3 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
4 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
5 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
6 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
7 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
8 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
9 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

10 **Sec. 184.** RCW 77.36.010 and 1996 c 54 s 2 are each amended to read  
11 as follows:

12 Unless otherwise specified, the following definitions apply  
13 throughout this chapter:

14 (1) "Crop" means a commercially raised horticultural and/or  
15 agricultural product and includes growing or harvested product but does  
16 not include livestock. For the purposes of this chapter all parts of  
17 horticultural trees shall be considered a crop and shall be eligible  
18 for claims.

19 (2) "Emergency" means an unforeseen circumstance beyond the control  
20 of the landowner or tenant that presents a real and immediate threat to  
21 crops, domestic animals, or fowl.

22 (3) "Immediate family member" means spouse, state registered  
23 domestic partner, brother, sister, grandparent, parent, child, or  
24 grandchild.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 185.** A new section is added to chapter 79A.05  
26 RCW to read as follows:

27 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
28 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
29 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
30 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
31 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
32 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
33 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
34 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
35 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-

1 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
2 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
3 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 186.** A new section is added to chapter 80.28  
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
7 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
8 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
9 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
10 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
11 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
12 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
13 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
14 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
15 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
16 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
17 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 187.** A new section is added to chapter 81.28  
19 RCW to read as follows:

20 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
21 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
22 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
23 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
24 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
25 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
26 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
27 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
28 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
29 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
30 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
31 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 188.** A new section is added to chapter 81.80  
33 RCW to read as follows:

34 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
35 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall

1 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
2 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
3 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
4 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
5 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
6 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
7 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
8 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
9 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
10 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 189.** A new section is added to chapter 82.08  
12 RCW to read as follows:

13 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
14 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
15 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
16 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
17 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
18 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
19 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
20 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
21 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
22 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
23 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
24 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 190.** A new section is added to chapter 83.100  
26 RCW to read as follows:

27 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
28 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
29 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
30 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
31 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
32 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
33 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
34 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
35 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-

1 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
2 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
3 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

4 **Sec. 191.** RCW 83.100.046 and 2005 c 514 s 1201 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) For the purposes of determining the Washington taxable estate,  
7 a deduction is allowed from the federal taxable estate for:

8 (a) The value of qualified real property reduced by any amounts  
9 allowable as a deduction in respect of the qualified real property and  
10 tangible personal property under section 2053(a)(4) of the internal  
11 revenue code, if the decedent was at the time of his or her death a  
12 citizen or resident of the United States.

13 (b) The value of any tangible personal property used by the  
14 decedent or a member of the decedent's family for a qualified use on  
15 the date of the decedent's death, reduced by any amounts allowable as  
16 a deduction in respect of the tangible personal property under section  
17 2053(a)(4) of the internal revenue code, if all of the requirements of  
18 subsection (10)(f)(i)(A) of this section are met and the decedent was  
19 at the time of his or her death a citizen or resident of the United  
20 States.

21 (c) The value of real property that is not deductible under (a) of  
22 this subsection solely by reason of subsection (10)(f)(i)(B) of this  
23 section, reduced by any amounts allowable as a deduction in respect of  
24 the qualified real property and tangible personal property under  
25 section 2053(a)(4) of the internal revenue code, if the requirements of  
26 subsection (10)(f)(i)(C) of this section are met with respect to the  
27 property and the decedent was at the time of his or her death a citizen  
28 or resident of the United States.

29 (2) Property shall be considered to have been acquired from or to  
30 have passed from the decedent if:

31 (a) The property is so considered under section 1014(b) of the  
32 Internal Revenue Code;

33 (b) The property is acquired by any person from the estate; or

34 (c) The property is acquired by any person from a trust, to the  
35 extent the property is includible in the gross estate of the decedent.

36 (3) If the decedent and the decedent's surviving spouse at any time  
37 held qualified real property as community property, the interest of the



1 surviving spouse in the property shall be taken into account under this  
2 section to the extent necessary to provide a result under this section  
3 with respect to the property which is consistent with the result which  
4 would have obtained under this section if the property had not been  
5 community property.

6 (4) In the case of any qualified woodland, the value of trees  
7 growing on the woodland may be deducted if otherwise qualified under  
8 this section.

9 (5) If property is qualified real property with respect to a  
10 decedent, hereinafter in this subsection referred to as the "first  
11 decedent," and the property was acquired from or passed from the first  
12 decedent to the surviving spouse of the first decedent, active  
13 management of the farm by the surviving spouse shall be treated as  
14 material participation by the surviving spouse in the operation of the  
15 farm.

16 (6) Property owned indirectly by the decedent may qualify for a  
17 deduction under this section if owned through an interest in a  
18 corporation, partnership, or trust as the terms corporation,  
19 partnership, or trust are used in section 2032A(g) of the Internal  
20 Revenue Code. In order to qualify for a deduction under this  
21 subsection, the interest, in addition to meeting the other tests for  
22 qualification under this section, must qualify under section 6166(b)(1)  
23 of the Internal Revenue Code as an interest in a closely held business  
24 on the date of the decedent's death and for sufficient other time,  
25 combined with periods of direct ownership, to equal at least five years  
26 of the eight-year period preceding the death.

27 (7)(a) If, on the date of the decedent's death, the requirements of  
28 subsection (10)(f)(i)(C)(II) of this section with respect to the  
29 decedent for any property are not met, and the decedent (i) was  
30 receiving old age benefits under Title II of the social security act  
31 for a continuous period ending on such date, or (ii) was disabled for  
32 a continuous period ending on this date, then subsection  
33 (10)(f)(i)(C)(II) of this section shall be applied with respect to the  
34 property by substituting "the date on which the longer of such  
35 continuous periods began" for "the date of the decedent's death" in  
36 subsection (10)(f)(i)(C) of this section.

37 (b) For the purposes of (a) of this subsection, an individual shall

1 be disabled if the individual has a mental or physical impairment which  
2 renders that individual unable to materially participate in the  
3 operation of the farm.

4 (8) Property may be deducted under this section whether or not  
5 special valuation is elected under section 2032A of the Internal  
6 Revenue Code on the federal return. For the purposes of determining  
7 the deduction under this section, the value of property is its value as  
8 used to determine the value of the gross estate.

9 (9)(a) In the case of any qualified replacement property, any  
10 period during which there was ownership, qualified use, or material  
11 participation with respect to the replaced property by the decedent or  
12 any member of the decedent's family shall be treated as a period during  
13 which there was ownership, use, or material participation, as the case  
14 may be, with respect to the qualified replacement property.

15 (b) Subsection (9)(a) of this section shall not apply to the extent  
16 that the fair market value of the qualified replacement property, as of  
17 the date of its acquisition, exceeds the fair market value of the  
18 replaced property, as of the date of its disposition.

19 (c) For the purposes of this subsection (9), the following  
20 definitions apply:

21 (i) "Qualified replacement property" means any real property:

22 (A) Which is acquired in an exchange which qualifies under section  
23 1031 of the Internal Revenue Code; or

24 (B) The acquisition of which results in the nonrecognition of gain  
25 under section 1033 of the Internal Revenue Code.

26 The term "qualified replacement property" only includes property  
27 which is used for the same qualified use as the replaced property was  
28 being used before the exchange.

29 (ii) "Replaced property" means the property was:

30 (A) Transferred in the exchange which qualifies under section 1031  
31 of the Internal Revenue Code; or

32 (B) Compulsorily or involuntarily converted within the meaning of  
33 section 1033 of the Internal Revenue Code.

34 (10) For the purposes of this section, the following definitions  
35 apply:

36 (a) "Active management" means the making of the management  
37 decisions of a farm, other than the daily operating decisions.

1 (b) "Farm" includes stock, dairy, poultry, fruit, furbearing  
2 animal, and truck farms; plantations; ranches; nurseries; ranges;  
3 greenhouses or other similar structures used primarily for the raising  
4 of agricultural or horticultural commodities; and orchards and  
5 woodlands.

6 (c) "Farming purposes" means:

7 (i) Cultivating the soil or raising or harvesting any agricultural  
8 or horticultural commodity, including the raising, shearing, feeding,  
9 caring for, training, and management of animals on a farm;

10 (ii) Handling, drying, packing, grading, or storing on a farm any  
11 agricultural or horticultural commodity in its unmanufactured state,  
12 but only if the owner, tenant, or operator of the farm regularly  
13 produces more than one-half of the commodity so treated; and

14 (iii)(A) The planting, cultivating, caring for, or cutting of  
15 trees; or

16 (B) The preparation, other than milling, of trees for market.

17 (d) "Member of the family" means, with respect to any individual,  
18 only:

19 (i) An ancestor of the individual;

20 (ii) The spouse or state registered domestic partner of the  
21 individual;

22 (iii) A lineal descendant of the individual, of the individual's  
23 spouse or state registered domestic partner, or of a parent of the  
24 individual; or

25 (iv) The spouse or state registered domestic partner of any lineal  
26 descendant described in (d)(iii) of this subsection.

27 For the purposes of this subsection (10)(d), a legally adopted  
28 child of an individual shall be treated as the child of such individual  
29 by blood.

30 (e) "Qualified heir" means, with respect to any property, a member  
31 of the decedent's family who acquired property, or to whom property  
32 passed, from the decedent.

33 (f)(i) "Qualified real property" means real property which was  
34 acquired from or passed from the decedent to a qualified heir of the  
35 decedent and which, on the date of the decedent's death, was being used  
36 for a qualified use by the decedent or a member of the decedent's  
37 family, but only if:

1 (A) Fifty percent or more of the adjusted value of the gross estate  
2 consists of the adjusted value of real or personal property which:

3 (I) On the date of the decedent's death, was being used for a  
4 qualified use by the decedent or a member of the decedent's family; and

5 (II) Was acquired from or passed from the decedent to a qualified  
6 heir of the decedent;

7 (B) Twenty-five percent or more of the adjusted value of the gross  
8 estate consists of the adjusted value of real property which meets the  
9 requirements of (f)(i)(A)(II) and (f)(i)(C) of this subsection; and

10 (C) During the eight-year period ending on the date of the  
11 decedent's death there have been periods aggregating five years or more  
12 during which:

13 (I) The real property was owned by the decedent or a member of the  
14 decedent's family and used for a qualified use by the decedent or a  
15 member of the decedent's family; and

16 (II) There was material participation by the decedent or a member  
17 of the decedent's family in the operation of the farm. For the  
18 purposes of this subsection (f)(i)(C)(II), material participation shall  
19 be determined in a manner similar to the manner used for purposes of  
20 section 1402(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code.

21 (ii) For the purposes of this subsection, the term "adjusted value"  
22 means:

23 (A) In the case of the gross estate, the value of the gross estate,  
24 determined without regard to any special valuation under section 2032A  
25 of the Internal Revenue Code, reduced by any amounts allowable as a  
26 deduction under section 2053(a)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code; or

27 (B) In the case of any real or personal property, the value of the  
28 property for purposes of chapter 11 of the Internal Revenue Code,  
29 determined without regard to any special valuation under section 2032A  
30 of the Internal Revenue Code, reduced by any amounts allowable as a  
31 deduction in respect of such property under section 2053(a)(4) of the  
32 Internal Revenue Code.

33 (g) "Qualified use" means the property is used as a farm for  
34 farming purposes. In the case of real property which meets the  
35 requirements of (f)(i)(C) of this subsection, residential buildings and  
36 related improvements on the real property occupied on a regular basis  
37 by the owner or lessee of the real property or by persons employed by  
38 the owner or lessee for the purpose of operating or maintaining the

1 real property, and roads, buildings, and other structures and  
2 improvements functionally related to the qualified use shall be treated  
3 as real property devoted to the qualified use. For tangible personal  
4 property eligible for a deduction under subsection (1)(b) of this  
5 section, "qualified use" means the property is used primarily for  
6 farming purposes on a farm.

7 (h) "Qualified woodland" means any real property which:

8 (i) Is used in timber operations; and

9 (ii) Is an identifiable area of land such as an acre or other area  
10 for which records are normally maintained in conducting timber  
11 operations.

12 (i) "Timber operations" means:

13 (i) The planting, cultivating, caring for, or cutting of trees; or

14 (ii) The preparation, other than milling, of trees for market.

15 **Sec. 192.** RCW 83.100.047 and 2005 c 516 s 13 are each amended to  
16 read as follows:

17 (1)(a) If the federal taxable estate on the federal return is  
18 determined by making an election under section 2056 or 2056A of the  
19 Internal Revenue Code, or if no federal return is required to be filed,  
20 the department may provide by rule for a separate election on the  
21 Washington return, consistent with section 2056 or 2056A of the  
22 Internal Revenue Code and (b) of this subsection, for the purpose of  
23 determining the amount of tax due under this chapter. The election  
24 shall be binding on the estate and the beneficiaries, consistent with  
25 the Internal Revenue Code and (b) of this subsection. All other  
26 elections or valuations on the Washington return shall be made in a  
27 manner consistent with the federal return, if a federal return is  
28 required, and such rules as the department may provide.

29 (b) The department shall provide by rule that a state registered  
30 domestic partner is deemed to be a surviving spouse and entitled to a  
31 deduction from the Washington taxable estate for any interest passing  
32 from the decedent to his or her domestic partner, consistent with  
33 section 2056 or 2056A of the Internal Revenue Code but regardless of  
34 whether such interest would be deductible from the federal gross estate  
35 under section 2056 or 2056A of the Internal Revenue Code.

36 (2) Amounts deducted for federal income tax purposes under section

1 642(g) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986((7)) shall not be allowed  
2 as deductions in computing the amount of tax due under this chapter.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 193.** A new section is added to chapter 83.110A  
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
6 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
7 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
8 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
9 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
10 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
11 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
12 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
13 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
14 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
15 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
16 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 194.** A new section is added to chapter 84.04  
18 RCW to read as follows:

19 For the purposes of this title, the terms spouse, marriage,  
20 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
21 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
22 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
23 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
24 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
25 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
26 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
27 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
28 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
29 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
30 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

31 **Sec. 195.** RCW 84.04.050 and 1961 c 15 s 84.04.050 are each amended  
32 to read as follows:

33 "Householder" shall be taken to mean and include every person,  
34 married, in a state registered domestic partnership, or single, who

1 resides within the state of Washington being the owner or holder of an  
2 estate or having a house or place of abode, either as owner or lessee.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 196.** A new section is added to chapter 85.38  
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
6 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
7 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
8 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
9 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
10 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
11 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
12 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
13 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
14 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
15 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
16 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 197.** A new section is added to chapter 87.03  
18 RCW to read as follows:

19 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
20 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
21 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
22 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
23 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
24 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
25 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
26 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
27 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
28 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
29 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
30 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 198.** A new section is added to chapter 89.12  
32 RCW to read as follows:

33 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
34 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
35 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic

1 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
2 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
3 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
4 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
5 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
6 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
7 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
8 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
9 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 199.** A new section is added to chapter 91.08  
11 RCW to read as follows:

12 For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage,  
13 marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall  
14 be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic  
15 partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships  
16 as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references  
17 to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered  
18 domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or  
19 invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict  
20 with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-  
21 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
22 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
23 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 200.** The following acts or parts of acts are  
25 each repealed:

26 (1) RCW 26.60.050 (Termination--Records--Fees) and 2008 c 6 s 1002  
27 & 2007 c 156 s 6; and

28 (2) RCW 26.60.055 (Termination) and 2008 c 6 s 1001.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 201.** (1) Sections 5 through 8, 79, 87 through  
30 103, 107, 151, 173 through 175, and 190 through 192 of this act take  
31 effect January 1, 2014.

32 (2) Sections 165 and 166 of this act take effect August 1, 2009.

Passed by the Senate March 10, 2009.

Passed by the House April 15, 2009.

Approved by the Governor May 18, 2009.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 20, 2009.