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HOUSE BILL 1781

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State of Washington                      52nd Legislature                      1991 Regular Session

By Representatives Bowman, Riley, R. Meyers, Hargrove, Tate, D. Sommers and Brumsickle.

Read first time February 11, 1991. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1            AN ACT Relating to paternity actions; adding a new section to  
2 chapter 26.26 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 74.12 RCW.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 26.26 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6            (1) The statute of limitations for a mother to initiate a paternity  
7 action for the purposes of collecting back child support or childbirth  
8 expenses is six months.

9            (2) The statute of limitations for the department to initiate  
10 paternity actions for the purposes of assessing and collecting  
11 retroactive child support and childbirth expenses is three months from  
12 the time the department establishes the child's eligibility for public  
13 assistance.

14            (3) The statute of limitations for the department to initiate  
15 paternity actions for the purposes of assessing prospective child

1 support payments is six months from the time the department is notified  
2 of the name of the reputed father.

3 (4) "Childbirth expenses" as used in this section means medical  
4 expenses incurred in the prenatal care and birth of the child.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 74.12 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) The statute of limitations for a mother to initiate a paternity  
8 action for the purposes of collecting back child support or childbirth  
9 expenses is six months.

10 (2) The statute of limitations for the department to initiate  
11 paternity actions for the purposes of assessing and collecting  
12 retroactive child support and childbirth expenses is three months from  
13 the time the department establishes the child's eligibility for public  
14 assistance.

15 (3) The statute of limitations for the department to initiate  
16 paternity actions for the purposes of assessing prospective child  
17 support payments is six months from the time the department is notified  
18 of the name of the reputed father.

19 (4) "Childbirth expenses" as used in this section means medical  
20 expenses incurred in the prenatal care and birth of the child.