SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based only on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

BILL:	SB 854			
SPONSOR:	Senator McKay			
SUBJECT:	Reviser's Bill (direc	tive - gender-specific)		
DATE:	February 10, 1999	REVISED: <u>2/18/99</u>		
1. Pollitz 2 3 4 5	ANALYST z (Stat. Rev.)	STAFF DIRECTOR Kassack	REFERENCE RC	ACTION Fav/1 amendment

I. Summary:

The Division of Statutory Revision of the Office of Legislative Services is required, by statute, to conduct a systematic and continuing study of the Florida Statutes. The purpose of this study is to recommend to the Legislature changes that will remove inconsistencies, redundancies, and unnecessary repetition from the statutes; improve clarity and facilitate correct interpretation; correct grammatical and typographical errors; and delete obsolete, repealed, or superseded provisions. These recommendations are submitted to the Legislature in the form of technical, nonsubstantive reviser's bills.

The Division of Statutory Revision was directed by the Legislature, in s. 1, ch. 93-199, Laws of Florida, to eliminate gender-specific references to human beings in the Florida Statutes through reviser's bills to be submitted by January 1, 1997. This reviser's bill would eliminate gender-specific references that have been added subsequently. A reviser's bill cannot be amended except to delete a bill section.

II. Present Situation:

The Legislature, in s. 1, ch. 93-199, Laws of Florida, directed the Division to submit by January 1, 1997, reviser's bills to eliminate gender-specific language in the statutes. These bills became law as chs. 95-147, 95-148, 97-96, 97-102, and 97-103, Laws of Florida. Additional gender-specific references have been added to the statutes since that time.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

This bill revises Florida Statutes text to eliminate gender-specific references to human beings added since submission of the reviser's bills required by ch. 93-199, Laws of Florida.

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IV. Constitutional Issues:

A.	Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Amendments:

#1 by Rules and Calendar:

Deletes revisions to s. 747.051 in a gender-neutral statutes update bill that would have changed the word "wife" to the word "spouse" because the change broadens the meaning of the language to include husbands as well as wives.

This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.