A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to family law; amending s. 88.1011, F.S.; 3 revising and providing definitions; amending s. 88.1021, 4 F.S.; designating the Department of Revenue as the support 5 enforcement agency of this state; amending s. 88.1031, 6 F.S.; revising provisions relating to remedies provided by 7 the act; creating s. 88.1041, F.S.; providing for 8 applicability of provisions to residents of foreign 9 counties and foreign support proceedings; amending s. 10 88.2011, F.S.; providing that specified bases of personal 11 jurisdiction may not be used to acquire personal jurisdiction for certain purposes unless specified 12 requirements are met; amending s. 88.2021, F.S.; providing 13 14 for duration of personal jurisdiction; deleting provisions 15 relating to procedure when exercising jurisdiction over 16 nonresident; amending ss. 88.2031 and 88.2041, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending 17 s. 88.2051, F.S.; revising provisions relating to 18 19 continuation of exclusive jurisdiction; amending s. 88.2061, F.S.; providing for continuing jurisdiction to 20 21 enforce child support orders; amending s. 88.2071, F.S.; 22 revising provisions relating to determination of a 23 controlling child support order; amending s. 88.2081, 24 F.S.; revising language relating to child support orders 25 for two or more obligees; amending s. 88.2091, F.S.; 26 revising language relating to credit for child support 27 payments; creating s. 88.2101, F.S.; providing for 28 application of the act to a nonresident subject to Page 1 of 69

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29	personal jurisdiction; creating s. 88.2111, F.S.;
30	providing for continuing, exclusive jurisdiction to modify
31	a spousal support order; amending s. 88.3011, F.S.;
32	revising provisions relating to applicability of the act;
33	amending ss. 88.3021 and 88.3031, F.S.; revising
34	terminology; amending s. 88.3041, F.S.; revising
35	provisions relating to duties of an initiating tribunal;
36	amending s. 88.3051, F.S.; revising provisions relating to
37	duties and powers of a responding tribunal; amending s.
38	88.3061, F.S.; revising terminology; amending s. 88.3071,
39	F.S.; revising provisions relating to the duties of a
40	support enforcement agency; amending s. 88.3081, F.S.;
41	providing that the Governor and Cabinet may determine that
42	a foreign country has established a reciprocal arrangement
43	for child support with this state and take appropriate
44	action for notification of the determination; amending s.
45	88.3101, F.S.; revising terminology; amending s. 88.3111,
46	F.S.; revising provisions relating to pleadings and
47	accompanying documents; amending s. 88.3121, F.S.;
48	revising requirements for nondisclosure of certain
49	information; amending ss. 88.3131 and 88.3141, F.S.;
50	revising terminology; amending s. 88.3161, F.S.; revising
51	provisions relating to special rules of evidence and
52	procedure; amending ss. 88.3171 and 88.3181, F.S.;
53	revising terminology; amending s. 88.3191, F.S.; revising
54	provisions relating to receipt and disbursement of
55	payments; amending s. 88.4011, F.S.; revising provisions
56	relating to establishment of a support order; creating s.
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57 88.4021, F.S.; providing that certain tribunals of this 58 state may serve as responding tribunals in proceedings to 59 determine parentage of a child under certain provisions; 60 providing a directive to the Division of Statutory Revision; amending s. 88.5011, F.S.; revising provisions 61 relating to an employer's receipt of an income-withholding 62 63 order from another state; amending ss. 88.50211, 88.5031, 88.5041, and 88.5051, F.S.; revising terminology; amending 64 65 s. 88.5061, F.S.; revising provisions relating to a 66 contest by obligor; amending s. 88.5071, F.S.; revising 67 terminology; providing a directive to the Division of Statutory Revision; amending s. 88.6011, F.S.; revising 68 terminology; amending s. 88.6021, F.S.; revising 69 70 provisions relating to the procedure to register order for enforcement; amending s. 88.6031, F.S.; revising 71 72 terminology; amending s. 88.6041, F.S.; revising 73 provisions relating to choice of law; amending s. 88.6051, 74 F.S.; revising provisions relating to notice of 75 registration of order; amending s. 88.6061, F.S.; revising 76 provisions relating to the procedure to contest the 77 validity or enforcement of a registered order; amending s. 78 88.6071, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the 79 contesting of registration or enforcement; amending s. 80 88.6081, F.S.; revising terminology; amending s. 88.6091, 81 F.S.; correcting a cross-reference; amending s. 88.6111, 82 F.S.; revising provisions relating to modification of a child support order of another state; amending s. 88.6121, 83 84 F.S.; revising provisions relating to recognition of a Page 3 of 69

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85 child support order modified in another state; creating s. 86 88.6151, F.S.; providing for jurisdiction to modify a 87 child support order of a foreign country; creating s. 88 88.6161, F.S.; providing procedures for registration of a 89 child support order of a foreign country for modification; 90 providing a directive to the Division of Statutory 91 Revision; repealing s. 88.7011, F.S., relating to a 92 proceeding to determine parentage of a child; creating s. 93 88.70111, F.S.; providing definitions relating to a 94 support proceeding under the Convention on the 95 International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance; creating s. 88.7021, F.S.; providing 96 for applicability; creating s. 88.7031, F.S.; specifying 97 98 the relationship of the Department of Revenue to the 99 United States central authority; creating s. 88.7041, 100 F.S.; providing for initiation by the Department of 101 Revenue of support proceedings under the convention; 102 creating s. 88.7051, F.S.; providing for direct requests 103 to tribunals; creating s. 88.7061, F.S.; providing for 104 registration of convention support orders; creating s. 105 88.7071, F.S.; providing for contest of registered 106 convention support orders; creating s. 88.7081, F.S.; 107 providing for recognition and enforcement of registered 108 convention support orders; creating s. 88.7091, F.S.; 109 providing for partial enforcement of convention support 110 orders; creating s. 88.7101, F.S.; providing requirements 111 for a foreign support agreement; creating s. 88.7111, F.S.; providing for modification of convention child 112 Page 4 of 69

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113	support orders; creating s. 88.7121, F.S.; providing
114	limits on the personal use of certain information;
115	creating s. 88.7131, F.S.; requiring a record filed with a
116	tribunal of this state under specified provisions to be in
117	the original language and, if not in English, to be
118	accompanied by an English translation; amending s.
119	88.8011, F.S.; revising terminology; amending s. 88.9011,
120	F.S.; revising provisions relating to the uniformity of
121	application and construction of the act; creating s.
122	88.9021, F.S.; providing applicability; amending s.
123	88.9031, F.S.; revising terminology; amending ss. 61.13
124	and 827.06, F.S.; correcting cross-references; directing
125	the Department of Revenue to apply for a waiver; amending
126	s. 61.08, F.S.; revising provisions relating to factors to
127	be considered for alimony awards; revising provisions
128	relating to awards of durational alimony; revising
129	provisions relating to awards of permanent alimony;
130	providing that the award of alimony may not leave the
131	payor with significantly less net income than the net
132	income of the recipient unless there are written findings
133	of exceptional circumstances; providing for applicability
134	of specified provisions; providing effective dates.
135	
136	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
137	
138	Section 1. Section 88.1011, Florida Statutes, is amended
139	to read:
140	88.1011 DefinitionsAs used in this act:
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141	(1) "Child" means an individual, whether over or under the
142	age of majority, who is or is alleged to be owed a duty of
143	support by the individual's parent or who is or is alleged to be
144	the beneficiary of a support order directed to the parent.
145	(2) "Child support order" means a support order for a
146	child, including a child who has attained the age of majority
147	under the law of the issuing state or foreign country.
148	(3) "Convention" means the Convention on the International
149	Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance,
150	concluded at The Hague on November 23, 2007.
151	(4)(3) "Duty of support" means an obligation imposed or
152	imposable by law to provide support for a child, spouse, or
153	former spouse, including an unsatisfied obligation to provide
154	support.
155	(5) "Foreign country" means a country, including a
155 156	(5) "Foreign country" means a country, including a political subdivision thereof, other than the United States,
156	political subdivision thereof, other than the United States,
156 157	political subdivision thereof, other than the United States, that authorizes the issuance of support orders and:
156 157 158	political subdivision thereof, other than the United States, that authorizes the issuance of support orders and: (a) Which has been declared under the law of the United
156 157 158 159	political subdivision thereof, other than the United States, that authorizes the issuance of support orders and: (a) Which has been declared under the law of the United States to be a foreign reciprocating country;
156 157 158 159 160	political subdivision thereof, other than the United States, that authorizes the issuance of support orders and: (a) Which has been declared under the law of the United States to be a foreign reciprocating country; (b) Which has established a reciprocal arrangement for
156 157 158 159 160 161	political subdivision thereof, other than the United States, that authorizes the issuance of support orders and: (a) Which has been declared under the law of the United States to be a foreign reciprocating country; (b) Which has established a reciprocal arrangement for child support with this state as provided in s. 88.3081;
156 157 158 159 160 161 162	<pre>political subdivision thereof, other than the United States, that authorizes the issuance of support orders and: (a) Which has been declared under the law of the United States to be a foreign reciprocating country; (b) Which has established a reciprocal arrangement for child support with this state as provided in s. 88.3081; (c) Which has enacted a law or established procedures for</pre>
156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163	<pre>political subdivision thereof, other than the United States, that authorizes the issuance of support orders and: (a) Which has been declared under the law of the United States to be a foreign reciprocating country; (b) Which has established a reciprocal arrangement for child support with this state as provided in s. 88.3081; (c) Which has enacted a law or established procedures for the issuance and enforcement of support orders which are</pre>
156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164	political subdivision thereof, other than the United States, that authorizes the issuance of support orders and: (a) Which has been declared under the law of the United States to be a foreign reciprocating country; (b) Which has established a reciprocal arrangement for child support with this state as provided in s. 88.3081; (c) Which has enacted a law or established procedures for the issuance and enforcement of support orders which are substantially similar to the procedures under this act; or
156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165	<pre>political subdivision thereof, other than the United States, that authorizes the issuance of support orders and: (a) Which has been declared under the law of the United States to be a foreign reciprocating country; (b) Which has established a reciprocal arrangement for child support with this state as provided in s. 88.3081; (c) Which has enacted a law or established procedures for the issuance and enforcement of support orders which are substantially similar to the procedures under this act; or (d) In which the convention is in force with respect to</pre>

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169 <u>(7) "Foreign tribunal" means a court, administrative</u> 170 <u>agency, or quasi-judicial entity of a foreign country which is</u> 171 <u>authorized to establish, enforce, or modify support orders or to</u> 172 <u>determine parentage of a child. The term includes a competent</u> 173 <u>authority under the convention.</u>

(8) (4) "Home state" means the state or foreign country in 174 175 which a child lived with a parent or a person acting as parent 176 for at least 6 consecutive months immediately preceding the time 177 of filing of a petition or comparable pleading for support and, 178 if a child is less than 6 months old, the state or foreign 179 country in which the child lived from birth with any of them. A 180 period of temporary absence of any of them is counted as part of the 6-month or other period. 181

182 <u>(9)(5)</u> "Income" includes earnings or other periodic 183 entitlements to money from any source and any other property 184 subject to withholding for support under the law of this state.

185 <u>(10)(6)</u> "Income-withholding order" means an order or other 186 legal process directed to an obligor's employer or other debtor, 187 as defined by the income deduction law of this state, or payor 188 as defined by s. 61.046, to withhold support from the income of 189 the obligor.

190 (7) "Initiating state" means a state from which a 191 proceeding is forwarded or in which a proceeding is filed for 192 forwarding to a responding state under this act or a law or 193 procedure substantially similar to this act, the Uniform 194 Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act, or the Revised Uniform 195 Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act. 196 (11)(8) "Initiating tribunal" means the authorized

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197	tribunal of a state or foreign country from which a petition or
198	comparable pleading is forwarded or in which a petition or
199	comparable pleading is filed for forwarding to another state or
200	foreign country in an initiating state.
201	(12) "Issuing foreign country" means the foreign country
202	in which a tribunal issues a support order or a judgment
203	determining parentage of a child.
204	(13) (9) "Issuing state" means the state in which a
205	tribunal issues a support order or renders a judgment
206	determining parentage of a child.
207	(14) (10) "Issuing tribunal" means the tribunal of a state
208	<u>or foreign country</u> that issues a support order or renders a
209	judgment determining parentage <u>of a child</u> .
210	(15) (11) "Law" includes decisional and statutory law and
211	rules and regulations having the force of law.
212	<u>(16)</u> "Obligee" means:
213	(a) An individual to whom a duty of support is or is
214	alleged to be owed or in whose favor a support order has been
215	issued or a judgment determining parentage <u>of a child</u> has been
216	issued rendered;
217	(b) A foreign country, state, or political subdivision <u>of</u>
218	<u>a state</u> to which the rights under a duty of support or support
219	order have been assigned or which has independent claims based
220	on financial assistance provided to an individual obligee \underline{in}
221	place of child support; or
222	(c) An individual seeking a judgment determining parentage
223	of the individual's child; or
224	(d) A person that is a creditor in a proceeding under part
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225	VII of this chapter.
226	(17) (13) "Obligor" means an individual, or the estate of a
227	decedent that:
228	(a) Who Owes or is alleged to owe a duty of support;
229	(b) Who Is alleged but has not been adjudicated to be a
230	parent of a child; or
231	(c) Who Is liable under a support order <u>; or</u>
232	(d) Is a debtor in a proceeding under part VII.
233	(18) "Outside this state" means a location in another
234	state or a country other than the United States, whether or not
235	the country is a foreign country.
236	(19) "Person" means an individual, corporation, business
237	trust, estate, trust, partnership, limited liability company,
238	association, joint venture, public corporation, government, or
239	governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality or any
240	other legal or commercial entity.
241	(20) "Record" means information that is inscribed on a
242	tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other
243	medium that is retrievable in perceivable form.
244	(21) (14) "Register" means to record or file in a tribunal
245	of this state a support order or judgment determining parentage
246	of a child issued in another state or a foreign country $rac{ ext{in the}}{ ext{in the}}$
247	Registry of Foreign Support Orders of the circuit court, or
248	other appropriate location for the recording or filing of
249	foreign judgments generally or foreign support orders
250	specifically.
251	(22) (15) "Registering tribunal" means a tribunal in which
252	a support order <u>or judgment determining parentage of a child</u> is
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253 registered.

254 (23) (16) "Responding state" means a state in which a 255 petition or comparable pleading for support or to determine 256 parentage of a child proceeding is filed or to which a petition 257 or comparable pleading proceeding is forwarded for filing from 258 another state or a foreign country an initiating state under 259 this act or a law or procedure substantially similar to this 260 act, the Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act, or the 261 Revised Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act.

262 <u>(24) (17)</u> "Responding tribunal" means the authorized 263 tribunal in a responding state or a foreign country.

264 <u>(25)(18)</u> "Spousal-support order" means a support order for 265 a spouse or former spouse of the obligor.

266 <u>(26)(19)</u> "State" means a state of the United States, the 267 District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin 268 Islands, or any territory or insular possession <u>under</u> subject to 269 the jurisdiction of the United States. The term includes:

270

(a) an Indian <u>nation or</u> tribe; and

(b) A foreign jurisdiction that has enacted a law or established procedures for issuance and enforcement of support orders which are substantially similar to the procedures under this act, the Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act, or the Revised Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act, as determined by the Attorney General.

277 <u>(27) (20)</u> "Support enforcement agency" means a public 278 official, governmental entity, or private agency authorized to 279 seek:

280

(a) <u>Seek</u> enforcement of support orders or laws relating to Page 10 of 69

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281 the duty of support;

	and add, of safetold,
282	(b) <u>Seek</u> establishment or modification of child support;
283	(c) <u>Request</u> determination of parentage <u>of a child</u> ; or
284	(d) <u>Attempt</u> to locate obligors or their assets <u>; or</u>
285	(e) Request determination of the controlling child support
286	<u>order</u> .
287	<u>(28)</u> "Support order" means a judgment, decree, or
288	order, <u>decision, or directive,</u> whether temporary, final, or
289	subject to modification, issued in a state or foreign country
290	for the benefit of a child, a spouse, or a former spouse, which
291	provides for monetary support, health care, arrearages,
292	retroactive support, or reimbursement for financial assistance
293	provided to an individual obligee in place of child support. The
294	term, and may include related costs and fees, interest, income
295	withholding, automatic adjustment, reasonable attorney's fees,
296	and other relief.
297	(29) (22) "Tribunal" means a court, administrative agency,
298	or quasi-judicial entity authorized to establish, enforce, or
299	modify support orders or to determine parentage of a child.
300	Section 2. Section 88.1021, Florida Statutes, is amended
301	to read:
302	88.1021 Tribunal of State tribunal and support enforcement
303	agency
304	(1) The circuit court or other appropriate court,
305	administrative agency, quasi-judicial entity, or combination is
306	the tribunal of this state.
307	(2) The Department of Revenue is the support enforcement
308	agency of this state.
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309	Section 3. Section 88.1031, Florida Statutes, is amended
310	to read:
311	88.1031 Remedies cumulative
312	(1) Remedies provided by this act are cumulative and do
313	not affect the availability of remedies under other law, or the
314	recognition of a foreign support order on the basis of comity.
315	(2) This act does not:
316	(a) Provide the exclusive method of establishing or
317	enforcing a support order under the law of this state; or
318	(b) Grant a tribunal of this state jurisdiction to render
319	judgment or issue an order relating to child custody or
320	visitation in a proceeding under this act.
321	Section 4. Section 88.1041, Florida Statutes, is created
322	to read:
323	88.1041 Application of act to resident of foreign country
324	and foreign support proceeding
325	(1) A tribunal of this state shall apply parts I through
326	VI of this chapter, and, as applicable, part VII of this
327	chapter, to a support proceeding involving:
328	(a) A foreign support order;
329	(b) A foreign tribunal; or
330	(c) An obligee, obligor, or child residing in a foreign
331	country.
332	(2) A tribunal of this state that is requested to
333	recognize and enforce a support order on the basis of comity may
334	apply the procedural and substantive provisions of parts I $\!$
335	through VI of this chapter.

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336 (3) Part VII of this chapter applies only to a support 337 proceeding under the convention. In such a proceeding, if a 338 provision of part VII of this chapter is inconsistent with parts 339 I through VI of this chapter, part VII of this chapter controls. 340 Section 5. Section 88.2011, Florida Statutes, is amended 341 to read: 342 88.2011 Bases for jurisdiction over nonresident.-In a proceeding to establish or τ enforce τ or modify a 343 (1) support order or to determine parentage of a child, a tribunal 344 345 of this state may exercise personal jurisdiction over a 346 nonresident individual or the individual's guardian or 347 conservator if: (a) (1) The individual is personally served with citation, 348 349 summons, or notice within this state; 350 (b) (2) The individual submits to the jurisdiction of this 351 state by consent in a record, by entering a general appearance, 352 or by filing a responsive document having the effect of waiving 353 any contest to personal jurisdiction; 354 (c) (c) (3) The individual resided with the child in this 355 state; 356 (d) (4) The individual resided in this state and provided 357 prenatal expenses or support for the child; 358 (e) (5) The child resides in this state as a result of the 359 acts or directives of the individual; (f) (6) The individual engaged in sexual intercourse in 360 361 this state and the child may have been conceived by that act of 362 intercourse; (g) (7) The individual asserted parentage of a child in a 363 Page 13 of 69

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364	tribunal or in a putative father registry maintained in this
365	state by the appropriate agency; or
366	(h) (8) There is any other basis consistent with the
367	constitutions of this state and the United States for the
368	exercise of personal jurisdiction.
369	(2) The bases of personal jurisdiction set forth in
370	subsection (1) or in any other law of this state may not be used
371	to acquire personal jurisdiction for tribunal of this state to
372	modify a child support order of another state unless the
373	requirements of s. 88.6111 are met, or, in the case of a foreign
374	support order, unless the requirements of s. 88.6151 are met.
375	Section 6. Section 88.2021, Florida Statutes, is amended
376	to read:
377	88.2021 Duration of personal Procedure when exercising
378	jurisdiction over nonresidentPersonal jurisdiction acquired by
379	a tribunal of this state in a proceeding under this act or other
380	law of this state relating to a support order continues as long
381	as a tribunal of this state has continuing, exclusive
382	jurisdiction to modify its order or continuing jurisdiction to
383	enforce its order as provided by ss. 88.2051, 88.2061, and
384	88.2111 A tribunal of this state exercising personal
385	jurisdiction over a nonresident under s. 88.2011 may apply s.
386	88.3161 (special rules of evidence and procedure) to receive
387	evidence from another state, and s. 88.3181 (assistance with
388	discovery) to obtain discovery through a tribunal of another
389	state. In all other respects, parts III through VII of this
390	chapter do not apply and the tribunal shall apply the procedural
391	and substantive law of this state, including the rules on choice
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392 of law other than those established by this act. 393 Section 7. Section 88.2031, Florida Statutes, is amended 394 to read: 88.2031 Initiating and responding tribunal of state.-Under 395 396 this act, a tribunal of this state may serve as an initiating 397 tribunal to forward proceedings to a tribunal of another state 398 and as a responding tribunal for proceedings initiated in 399 another state or a foreign country. Section 8. Section 88.2041, Florida Statutes, is amended 400 to read: 401 402 88.2041 Simultaneous proceedings in another state.-403 A tribunal of this state may exercise jurisdiction to (1)404 establish a support order if the petition or comparable pleading 405 is filed after a petition or comparable pleading is filed in another state or a foreign country only if: 406 407 (a) The petition or comparable pleading in this state is 408 filed before the expiration of the time allowed in the other 409 state or the foreign country for filing a responsive pleading 410 challenging the exercise of jurisdiction by the other state or 411 the foreign country; 412 The contesting party timely challenges the exercise of (b) 413 jurisdiction in the other state or the foreign country; and 414 If relevant, this state is the home state of the (C) child. 415 416 (2) A tribunal of this state may not exercise jurisdiction to establish a support order if the petition or comparable 417 pleading is filed before a petition or comparable pleading is 418 filed in another state or a foreign country if: 419 Page 15 of 69

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(a) The petition or comparable pleading in the other state
or the foreign country is filed before the expiration of the
time allowed in this state for filing a responsive pleading
challenging the exercise of jurisdiction by this state;

(b) The contesting party timely challenges the exercise ofjurisdiction in this state; and

426 (c) If relevant, the other state or the foreign country is
427 the home state of the child.

428 Section 9. Section 88.2051, Florida Statutes, is amended 429 to read:

430

88.2051 Continuing exclusive jurisdiction.-

(1) A tribunal of this state <u>that has issued</u> issuing a
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(a) <u>At the time of the filing of a request for</u>
<u>modification</u>, <u>As long as</u> this state <u>is remains</u> the residence of
the obligor, the individual obligee, or the child for whose
benefit the support order is issued; or

440 Even if this state is not the residence of the (b) 441 obligor, the individual obligee, or the child for whose benefit 442 the support order is issued, the parties consent in a record or in open court that the tribunal of this state may continue to 443 444 exercise jurisdiction to modify its order Until all of the parties who are individuals have filed written consents with the 445 446 tribunal of this state for a tribunal of another state to modify 447 order and assume continuing exclusive jurisdiction. the

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448 A tribunal of this state that has issued issuing a (2)449 child support order consistent with the law of this state may 450 not exercise its continuing, exclusive jurisdiction to modify 451 the order if: the order has been modified by a tribunal of 452 another state pursuant to this act or a law substantially 453 similar to this act. 454 (a) All of the parties who are individuals file consent in 455 a record with the tribunal of this state that a tribunal of 456 another state that has jurisdiction over at least one of the 457 parties who is an individual or that is located in the state of 458 residence of the child may modify the order and assume 459 continuing, exclusive jurisdiction; or 460 (b) Its order is not the controlling order. 461 (3) If a child support order of this state is modified by 462 a tribunal of another state pursuant to this act or a law 463 substantially similar to this act, a tribunal of this state 464 loses its continuing exclusive jurisdiction with regard to 465 prospective enforcement of the order issued in this state, and 466 may only: 467 (a) Enforce the order that was modified as to amounts 468 accruing before the modification; 469 (b) Enforce nonmodifiable aspects of that order; and 470 (c) Provide other appropriate relief for violations of 471 that order which occurred before the effective date of the 472 modification. 473 (3) (4) If a tribunal of this state shall recognize the continuing exclusive jurisdiction of a tribunal of another state 474 475 which has issued a child support order pursuant to this act or a Page 17 of 69

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476 law substantially similar to this act which modifies a child 477 support order of a tribunal of this state, tribunals of this 478 state shall recognize the continuing, exclusive jurisdiction of 479 the tribunal of the other state.

480 (4) A tribunal of this state that lacks continuing,
481 exclusive jurisdiction to modify a child support order may serve
482 as an initiating tribunal to request a tribunal of another state
483 to modify a support order issued in that state.

484 (5) A temporary support order issued ex parte or pending
485 resolution of a jurisdictional conflict does not create
486 continuing exclusive jurisdiction in the issuing tribunal.

487 (6) A tribunal of this state issuing a support order 488 consistent with the law of this state has continuing exclusive 489 jurisdiction over a spousal support order throughout the 490 existence of the support obligation. A tribunal of this state 491 may not modify a spousal support order issued by a tribunal of 492 another state having continuing exclusive jurisdiction over that 493 order under the law of that state.

494 Section 10. Section 88.2061, Florida Statutes, is amended 495 to read:

496 88.2061 Enforcement and modification of support order by 497 tribunal having Continuing jurisdiction to enforce child support 498 order.-

499 (1) A tribunal of this state <u>that has issued a child</u>
500 <u>support order consistent with the law of this state</u> may serve as
501 an initiating tribunal to request a tribunal of another state to
502 enforce: <u>or modify a support order issued in that state</u>.

503

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(a) The order if the order is the controlling order and

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504 has not been modified by a tribunal of another state that 505 assumed jurisdiction pursuant to the Uniform Interstate Family 506 Support Act; or 507 A money judgment for arrears of support and interest (b) 508 on the order accrued before a determination that an order of a 509 tribunal of another state is the controlling order. 510 (2)A tribunal of this state having continuing exclusive 511 jurisdiction over a support order may act as a responding 512 tribunal to enforce or modify the order. If a party subject to 513 the continuing exclusive jurisdiction of the tribunal no longer resides in the issuing state, in subsequent proceedings the 514 515 tribunal may apply s. 88.3161 (special rules of evidence and 516 procedure) to receive evidence from another state and s. 88.3181 517 (assistance with discovery) to obtain discovery through a 518 tribunal of another state. (3) A tribunal of this state which lacks continuing 519 520 exclusive jurisdiction over a spousal support order may not 521 serve as a responding tribunal to modify a spousal support order 522 of another state. 523 Section 11. Section 88.2071, Florida Statutes, is amended 524 to read: 525 88.2071 Determination Recognition of controlling child 526 support order.-527 If a proceeding is brought under this act and only one (1) tribunal has issued a child support order, the order of that 528 tribunal controls and must be so recognized. 529 If a proceeding is brought under this act, and two or 530 (2)531 more child support orders have been issued by tribunals of this Page 19 of 69

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532 state, or another state, or a foreign country with regard to the 533 same obligor and <u>the same</u> child, a tribunal of this state <u>having</u> 534 <u>personal jurisdiction over both the obligor and individual</u> 535 <u>obligee</u> shall apply the following rules <u>and by order shall</u> 536 <u>determine</u> <u>in determining</u> which order <u>controls and must be</u> 537 <u>recognized</u> to recognize for purposes of continuing, exclusive 538 jurisdiction:

(a) If only one of the tribunals would have continuing,
exclusive jurisdiction under this act, the order of that
tribunal controls and must be so recognized.

542 (b) If more than one of the tribunals would have 543 continuing, exclusive jurisdiction under this act:-

544 <u>1.</u> An order issued by a tribunal in the current home state 545 of the child controls<u>; or and must be so recognized, but</u>

546 <u>2.</u> If an order has not been issued in the current home 547 state of the child, the order most recently issued controls and 548 must be so recognized.

(c) If none of the tribunals would have continuing,
exclusive jurisdiction under this act, the tribunal of this
state having jurisdiction over the parties shall issue a child
support order, which controls and must be so recognized.

(3) If two or more child support orders have been issued for the same obligor and <u>the same</u> child, <u>upon request of</u> and if the obligor or the individual obligee resides in this state, a party <u>who is an individual or that is a support enforcement</u> <u>agency</u>, <u>may request</u> a tribunal of this state <u>having personal</u> jurisdiction over both the obligor and the obligee who is an <u>individual shall</u> to determine which order controls and must be

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560 so recognized under subsection (2). The request may be filed 561 with a registration for enforcement or registration for 562 modification pursuant to part VI of this chapter, or may be 563 filed as a separate proceeding must be accompanied by a 564 certified copy of every support order in effect. The requesting 565 party shall give notice of the request to each party whose 566 rights may be affected by the determination. 567 (4) A request to determine which is the controlling order must be accompanied by a copy of every child support order in 568 effect and the applicable record of payments. The requesting 569 570 party shall give notice of the request to each party whose 571 rights may be affected by the determination. 572 (5) (4) The tribunal that issued the controlling order 573 under subsection (1), subsection (2), or subsection (3) is the 574 tribunal that has continuing, exclusive jurisdiction to the 575 extent provided in s. under s. 88.2051 or s. 88.2061. 576 (6) (5) A tribunal of this state that which determines by 577 order which is the identity of the controlling order under 578 paragraph (2)(a), or paragraph (2)(b), or subsection (3) or that 579 which issues a new controlling order under paragraph (2)(c) 580 shall state in that order: 581 The basis upon which the tribunal made its (a) 582 determination; -583 (b) The amount of prospective support, if any; and The total amount of consolidated arrears and accrued 584 (C) 585 interest, if any, under all of the orders after all payments 586 made are credited as provided by s. 88.2091.

587 (7)(6) Within 30 days after issuance of an order

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588 determining which is the identity of the controlling order, the 589 party obtaining the order shall file a certified copy of it in 590 with each tribunal that issued or registered an earlier order of 591 child support. A party or support enforcement agency obtaining 592 who obtains the order that and fails to file a certified copy is 593 subject to appropriate sanctions by a tribunal in which the 594 issue of failure to file arises. The failure to file does not 595 affect the validity or enforceability of the controlling order.

596 (8) An order that has been determined to be the
597 controlling order, or a judgment for consolidated arrears of
598 support and interest, if any, made pursuant to this section must
599 be recognized in proceedings under this act.

600 Section 12. Section 88.2081, Florida Statutes, is amended 601 to read:

602 88.2081 Multiple Child support orders for two or more 603 obligees.-In responding to multiple registrations, petitions, or 604 comparable pleadings for enforcement of two or more child 605 support orders in effect at the same time with regard to the 606 same obligor and different individual obligees, at least one of 607 which was issued by a tribunal of another state or a foreign 608 country, a tribunal of this state shall enforce those orders in 609 the same manner as if the multiple orders had been issued by a 610 tribunal of this state.

611 Section 13. Section 88.2091, Florida Statutes, is amended 612 to read:

613 88.2091 Credit for payments.—<u>A tribunal of this state</u>
 614 <u>shall credit</u> amounts collected and credited for a particular
 615 period pursuant to <u>any child support order against the amounts</u>

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616	owed for the same period under any other child support order for
617	support of the same child a support order issued by a tribunal
618	of another state must be credited against the amounts accruing
619	or accrued for the same period under a support order issued by
620	the tribunal of this state, another state, or a foreign country.
621	Section 14. Section 88.2101, Florida Statutes, is created
622	to read:
623	88.2101 Application of act to nonresident subject to
624	personal jurisdictionA tribunal of this state exercising
625	personal jurisdiction over a nonresident in a proceeding under
626	this act, under another law of this state relating to a support
627	order, or recognizing a foreign support order may receive
628	evidence from outside this state pursuant to s. 88.3161,
629	communicate with a tribunal outside this state pursuant to s.
630	88.3171, and obtain discovery through a tribunal outside this
631	state pursuant to s. 88.3181. In all other respects, parts III
632	through VI of this chapter do not apply, and the tribunal shall
633	apply the procedural and substantive law of this state.
634	Section 15. Section 88.2111, Florida Statutes, is created
635	to read:
636	88.2111 Continuing, exclusive jurisdiction to modify
637	spousal support order
638	(1) A tribunal of this state issuing a spousal support
639	order consistent with the law of this state has continuing,
640	exclusive jurisdiction to modify the spousal support order
641	throughout the existence of the support obligation.
642	(2) A tribunal of this state may not modify a spousal
643	support order issued by a tribunal of another state or foreign
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644	country having continuing, exclusive jurisdiction over that
645	order under the law of that state or foreign country.
646	(3) A tribunal of this state that has continuing,
647	exclusive jurisdiction over a spousal support order may serve
648	as:
649	(a) An initiating tribunal to request a tribunal of
650	another state to enforce the spousal support order issued in
651	this state; or
652	(b) A responding tribunal to enforce or modify its own
653	spousal support order.
654	Section 16. Section 88.3011, Florida Statutes, is amended
655	to read:
656	88.3011 Proceedings under this act
657	(1) Except as otherwise provided in this act, this <u>part</u>
658	article applies to all proceedings under this act.
659	(2) This act provides for the following proceedings:
660	(a) Establishment of an order for spousal support or child
661	support pursuant to part IV;
662	(b) Enforcement of a support order and income-withholding
663	order of another state without registration pursuant to part V;
664	(c) Registration of an order for spousal support or child
665	support of another state for enforcement pursuant to part VI;
666	(d) Modification of an order for child support or spousal
667	support issued by a tribunal of this state pursuant to ss.
668	88.2031-88.2061;
669	(c) Registration of an order for child support of another
670	state for modification pursuant to part VI;
671	(f) Determination of parentage pursuant to part VII; and
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672 (g) Assertion of jurisdiction over nonresidents pursuant
673 to ss. 88.2011-88.2021.

674 <u>(2)(3)</u> An individual petitioner or a support enforcement 675 agency may <u>initiate</u> commence a proceeding authorized under this 676 act by filing a petition or a comparable pleading in an 677 initiating tribunal for forwarding to a responding tribunal or 678 by filing a petition or a comparable pleading directly in a 679 tribunal of another state <u>or a foreign country</u> which has or can 680 obtain personal jurisdiction over the respondent.

681 Section 17. Section 88.3021, Florida Statutes, is amended 682 to read:

683 88.3021 <u>Proceeding Action</u> by minor parent.—A minor parent, 684 or a guardian or other legal representative of a minor parent, 685 may maintain a proceeding on behalf of or for the benefit of the 686 minor's child.

687 Section 18. Section 88.3031, Florida Statutes, is amended 688 to read:

689 88.3031 Application of law of state.—Except as otherwise 690 provided <u>in</u> by this act, a responding tribunal of this state 691 shall:

(1) Shall Apply the procedural and substantive law,
including the rules on choice of law, generally applicable to
similar proceedings originating in this state and may exercise
all powers and provide all remedies available in those
proceedings; and

697 (2) Shall Determine the duty of support and the amount
698 payable in accordance with the law and support guidelines of
699 this state.

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700 Section 19. Section 88.3041, Florida Statutes, is amended 701 to read:

702

88.3041 Duties of initiating tribunal.-

(1) Upon the filing of a petition or comparable pleading authorized by this act, an initiating tribunal of this state shall forward three copies of the petition and its accompanying documents or a comparable pleading and its accompanying documents:

(a) To the responding tribunal or appropriate supportenforcement agency in the responding state; or

(b) If the identity of the responding tribunal is unknown, to the state information agency of the responding state with a request that they be forwarded to the appropriate tribunal and that receipt be acknowledged.

714 (2) If requested by the responding tribunal a responding 715 state has not enacted this act or a law or procedure 716 substantially similar to this act, a tribunal of this state 717 shall may issue a certificate or other document and make 718 findings required by the law of the responding state. If the 719 responding tribunal state is in a foreign country jurisdiction, 720 upon request the tribunal of this state shall may specify the 721 amount of support sought, convert that amount into the 722 equivalent amount in the foreign currency under applicable 723 official or market exchange rate as publicly reported, and 724 provide any other documents necessary to satisfy the 725 requirements of the responding foreign tribunal state. Section 20. Section 88.3051, Florida Statutes, is amended 726 727 to read:

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728	88.3051 Duties and powers of responding tribunal
729	(1) When a responding tribunal of this state receives a
730	petition or comparable pleading from an initiating tribunal or
731	directly pursuant to s. 88.3011(2) (3) , it shall cause the
732	petition or comparable pleading to be filed and notify the
733	petitioner where and when it was filed.
734	(2) A responding tribunal of this state, to the extent not
735	 prohibited otherwise authorized by other law, may do one or more
736	of the following:
737	(a) <u>Establish</u> Issue or enforce a support order, modify a
738	child support order, determine the controlling child support
739	<u>order,</u> or render a judgment to determine parentage <u>of a child</u> .
740	(b) Order an obligor to comply with a support order,
741	specifying the amount and the manner of compliance.
742	(c) Order income withholding.
743	(d) Determine the amount of any arrearages, and specify a
744	method of payment.
745	(e) Enforce orders by civil or criminal contempt, or both.
746	(f) Set aside property for satisfaction of the support
747	order.
748	(g) Place liens and order execution on the obligor's
749	property.
750	(h) Order an obligor to keep the tribunal informed of the
751	obligor's current residential address, <u>electronic mail address,</u>
752	telephone number, employer, address of employment, and telephone
753	number at the place of employment.
754	(i) Issue a bench warrant, capias, or writ of bodily
755	attachment for an obligor who has failed after proper notice to
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756 appear at a hearing ordered by the tribunal and enter the bench 757 warrant, capias, or writ of bodily attachment in any local and 758 state computer systems for criminal warrants.

759 (j) Order the obligor to seek appropriate employment by760 specified methods.

(k) Award reasonable attorney's fees and other fees andcosts.

763

(1) Grant any other available remedy.

(3) A responding tribunal of this state shall include in a
support order issued under this act, or in the documents
accompanying the order, the calculations on which the support
order is based.

(4) A responding tribunal of this state may not condition
the payment of a support order issued under this act upon
compliance by a party with provisions for visitation.

(5) If a responding tribunal of this state issues an order under this act, the tribunal shall send a copy of the order to the petitioner and the respondent and to the initiating tribunal, if any.

775 If requested to enforce a support order, arrears, or (6) 776 judgment, or modify a support order stated in a foreign 777 currency, a responding tribunal of this state shall convert the 778 amount stated in the foreign currency to the equivalent amount 779 in dollars under the applicable official or market exchange rate 780 as publicly reported. Section 21. Section 88.3061, Florida Statutes, is amended 781 782 to read: 783 88.3061 Inappropriate tribunal.-If a petition or

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784	comparable pleading is received by an inappropriate tribunal of
785	this state, <u>the tribunal</u> it shall forward the pleading and
786	accompanying documents to an appropriate tribunal <u>of</u> in this
787	state or another state and notify the petitioner where and when
788	the pleading was sent.
789	Section 22. Section 88.3071, Florida Statutes, is amended
790	to read:
791	88.3071 Duties of support enforcement agency
792	(1) In a proceeding under this act, a support enforcement
793	agency of this state, upon request:
794	(a) Shall provide services to a petitioner residing in a
795	<pre>state;</pre>
796	(b) Shall provide services to a petitioner requesting
797	services through a central authority of a foreign country as
798	described in s. 88.1011(5)(a) or s. 88.1011(5)(d); and
799	(c) May provide services to a petitioner who is an
800	individual not residing in a state A support enforcement agency
801	of this state, upon request, shall provide services to a
802	petitioner in a proceeding under this act.
803	(2) A support enforcement agency that is providing
804	services to the petitioner as appropriate shall:
805	(a) Take all steps necessary to enable an appropriate
806	tribunal in this state <u>,</u> or another state <u>, or a foreign country</u>
807	to obtain jurisdiction over the respondent.
808	(b) Request an appropriate tribunal to set a date, time,
809	and place for a hearing.
810	(c) Make a reasonable effort to obtain all relevant
811	information, including information as to income and property of
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812 the parties.

(d) Within 10 days, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, after receipt of a written notice from an initiating, responding, or registering tribunal, send a copy of the notice to the petitioner.

(e) Within 10 days, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and
legal holidays, after receipt of a written communication from
the respondent or the respondent's attorney, send a copy of the
communication to the petitioner.

821 (f) Notify the petitioner if jurisdiction over the822 respondent cannot be obtained.

(3) A support enforcement agency of this state that
 requests registration of a child support order in this state for
 enforcement or for modification shall make reasonable efforts:

826 (a) To ensure that the order to be registered is the 827 controlling order; or

(b) If two or more child support orders exist and the identity of the controlling order has not been determined, to ensure that a request for such a determination is made in a tribunal having jurisdiction to do so.

(4) A support enforcement agency of this state that
 requests registration and enforcement of a support order,
 arrears, or judgment stated in a foreign currency shall convert
 the amounts stated in the foreign currency into the equivalent
 amounts in dollars under the applicable official or market
 exchange rate as publicly reported.
 (5) A support enforcement agency of this state shall issue

839 or request a tribunal of this state to issue a child support

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840 <u>order and an income-withholding order that redirect payment of</u> 841 <u>current support, arrears, and interest if requested to do so by</u> 842 <u>a support enforcement agency of another state pursuant to s.</u> 843 88.3191.

844 <u>(6)(3)</u> This act does not create or negate a relationship 845 of attorney and client or other fiduciary relationship between a 846 support enforcement agency or the attorney for the agency and 847 the individual being assisted by the agency.

848 Section 23. Section 88.3081, Florida Statutes, is amended 849 to read:

850

88.3081 Duty of Governor and Cabinet.-

851 (1) If the Governor and Cabinet determine that the support 852 enforcement agency is neglecting or refusing to provide services 853 to an individual, the Governor and Cabinet may order the agency 854 to perform its duties under this act or may provide those 855 services directly to the individual.

856 (2) The Governor and Cabinet may determine that a foreign
 857 country has established a reciprocal arrangement for child
 858 support with this state and take appropriate action for

859 <u>notification of the determination.</u>

860 Section 24. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section861 88.3101, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

88.3101 Duties of state information agency.-

862 863

(2) The state information agency shall:

(c) Forward to the appropriate tribunal in the place in
this state in which the individual obligee who is an individual
or the obligor resides, or in which the obligor's property is
believed to be located, all documents concerning a proceeding

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868 under this act received from another state or a foreign country 869 an initiating tribunal or the state information agency of the 870 initiating state. 871 Section 25. Subsection (1) of section 88.3111, Florida 872 Statutes, is amended to read: 873 88.3111 Pleadings and accompanying documents.-874 In a proceeding under this act, a petitioner seeking (1)to establish or modify a support order, or to determine 875 876 parentage of a child, or to register and modify a support order of a tribunal of another state or a foreign country in a 877 878 proceeding under this act must file a verify the petition or 879 comparable pleading. Unless otherwise ordered under s. 88.3121 880 (nondisclosure of information in exceptional circumstances), the 881 petition or comparable pleading or the documents accompanying 882 either the petition or comparable pleading must provide, so far 883 as known, the name, residential address, and social security 884 numbers of the obligor and the obligee or the parent and alleged 885 parent, and the name, sex, residential address, social security 886 number, and date of birth of each child for whose benefit whom 887 support is sought or whose parentage of a child is to be 888 determined. Unless filed at the time of registration, the 889 petition must be accompanied by a certified copy of any support 890 order known to have been issued by another tribunal in effect. 891 The petition may include any other information that may assist in locating or identifying the respondent. 892 893 Section 26. Section 88.3121, Florida Statutes, is amended 894 to read: 895 88.3121 Nondisclosure of information in exceptional

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896	circumstancesIf a party alleges in an affidavit or a pleading
897	under oath that the health, safety, or liberty of a party or
898	child would be jeopardized by disclosure of specific identifying
899	information, that information must be sealed and may not be
900	disclosed to the other party or the public. After a hearing in
901	which a tribunal takes into consideration the health, safety, or
902	liberty of the party or child, the tribunal may order disclosure
903	of information that the tribunal determines to be in the
904	interest of justice Upon a finding, which may be made ex parte,
905	that the health, safety, or liberty of a party or child would be
906	unreasonably put at risk by the disclosure of identifying
907	information, or if an existing order so provides, a tribunal
908	shall order that the address of the child or party or other
909	identifying information not be disclosed in a pleading or other
910	document filed in a proceeding under this act.
911	Section 27. Subsection (2) of section 88.3131, Florida

912 Statutes, is amended to read:

913

88.3131 Costs and fees.-

914 (2) If an obligee prevails, a responding tribunal of this 915 state may assess against an obligor filing fees, reasonable 916 attorney's fees, other costs, and necessary travel and other 917 reasonable expenses incurred by the obligee and the obligee's 918 witnesses. The tribunal may not assess fees, costs, or expenses 919 against the obligee or the support enforcement agency of either 920 the initiating or the responding state or foreign country, 921 except as provided by other law. Attorney's fees may be taxed as 922 costs, and may be ordered paid directly to the attorney, who may 923 enforce the order in the attorney's own name. Payment of support Page 33 of 69

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924 owed to the obligee has priority over fees, costs, and expenses. 925 Section 28. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 88.3141, 926 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

927

88.3141 Limited immunity of petitioner.-

928 (1) Participation by a petitioner in a proceeding <u>under</u>
929 <u>this act</u> before a responding tribunal, whether in person, by
930 private attorney, or through services provided by the support
931 enforcement agency, does not confer personal jurisdiction over
932 the petitioner in another proceeding.

933 (3) The immunity granted by this section does not extend 934 to civil litigation based on acts unrelated to a proceeding 935 under this act committed by a party while <u>physically</u> present in 936 this state to participate in the proceeding.

937 Section 29. Section 88.3161, Florida Statutes, is amended 938 to read:

939

88.3161 Special rules of evidence and procedure.-

940 (1) The physical presence of <u>a nonresident party who is an</u>
941 <u>individual</u> the petitioner in a responding tribunal of this state
942 is not required for the establishment, enforcement, or
943 modification of a support order or the rendition of a judgment
944 determining parentage of a child.

945 (2) <u>An A verified petition or other comparable pleading</u>, 946 affidavit, <u>a</u> document substantially complying with federally 947 mandated forms, <u>or and a document incorporated by reference in</u> 948 any of them, <u>which would not be</u> excluded under the hearsay rule 949 if given in person, is admissible in evidence if given under 950 <u>penalty of perjury oath by a party or witness residing outside</u> 951 this <u>in another</u> state.

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952 (3) A copy of the record of child support payments 953 certified as a true copy of the original by the custodian of the 954 record may be forwarded to a responding tribunal. The copy is 955 evidence of facts asserted in it, and is admissible to show 956 whether payments were made.

957 (4) Copies of bills for testing for parentage <u>of a child</u>, 958 and for prenatal and postnatal health care of the mother and 959 child, furnished to the adverse party at least 10 days before 960 trial, are admissible in evidence to prove the amount of the 961 charges billed and that the charges were reasonable, necessary, 962 and customary.

963 (5) Documentary evidence transmitted from <u>outside this</u>
964 another state to a tribunal of this state by telephone,
965 telecopier, or other <u>electronic</u> means that do not provide an
966 original <u>record</u> writing may not be excluded from evidence on an
967 objection based on the means of transmission.

968 In a proceeding under this act, a tribunal of this (6) 969 state shall may permit a party or witness residing outside this 970 in another state to be deposed or to testify by telephone, 971 audiovisual means, or other electronic means at a designated 972 tribunal or other location in that state. A tribunal of this 973 state shall cooperate with other tribunals of other states in 974 designating an appropriate location for the deposition or 975 testimony.

976 (7) If a party called to testify at a civil hearing 977 refuses to answer on the ground that the testimony may be self-978 incriminating, the trier of fact may draw an adverse inference 979 from the refusal.

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980	(8) A privilege against disclosure of communications
981	between spouses does not apply in a proceeding under this act.
982	(9) The defense of immunity based on the relationship of
983	husband and wife or parent and child does not apply in a
984	proceeding under this act.
985	(10) A voluntary acknowledgment of paternity, certified as
986	a true copy, is admissible to establish parentage of a child.
987	Section 30. Section 88.3171, Florida Statutes, is amended
988	to read:
989	88.3171 Communications between tribunals.—A tribunal of
990	this state may communicate with a tribunal <u>outside this</u> of
991	another state in <u>a record</u> writing, or by telephone, electronic
992	mail, or other means, to obtain information concerning the laws
993	of that state, the legal effect of a judgment, decree, or order
994	of that tribunal, and the status of a proceeding in the other
995	state. A tribunal of this state may furnish similar information
996	by similar means to a tribunal <u>outside this</u> of another state.
997	Section 31. Section 88.3181, Florida Statutes, is amended
998	to read:
999	88.3181 Assistance with discoveryA tribunal of this
1000	state may:
1001	(1) Request a tribunal <u>outside this</u> of another state to
1002	assist in obtaining discovery.
1003	(2) Upon request, compel a person over <u>which</u> whom it has
1004	jurisdiction to respond to a discovery order issued by a
1005	tribunal <u>outside this</u> of another state.
1006	Section 32. Section 88.3191, Florida Statutes, is amended
1007	to read:
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1008	88.3191 Receipt and disbursement of payments
1009	(1) A support enforcement agency or tribunal of this state
1010	shall disburse promptly any amounts received pursuant to a
1011	support order, as directed by the order. The agency or tribunal
1012	shall furnish to a requesting party or tribunal of another state
1013	or a foreign country a certified statement by the custodian of
1014	the record of the amounts and dates of all payments received.
1015	(2) If neither the obligor, nor the obligee who is an
1016	individual, nor the child resides in this state, upon request
1017	from the support enforcement agency of this state or another
1018	state, the support enforcement agency of this state or a
1019	tribunal of this state shall:
1020	(a) Direct that the support payment be made to the support
1021	enforcement agency in the state in which the obligee is
1022	receiving services; and
1023	(b) Issue and send to the obligor's employer a conforming
1024	income-withholding order or an administrative notice of change
1025	of payee, reflecting the redirected payments.
1026	(3) The support enforcement agency of this state receiving
1027	redirected payments from another state pursuant to a law similar
1028	to subsection (2) shall furnish to a requesting party or
1029	tribunal of the other state a certified statement by the
1030	custodian of the record of the amount and dates of all payments
1031	received.
1032	Section 33. Section 88.4011, Florida Statutes, is amended
1033	to read:
1034	88.4011 <u>Establishment of</u> Petition to establish support
1035	order
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1036	(1) If a support order entitled to recognition under this
1037	act has not been issued, a responding tribunal of this state
1038	with personal jurisdiction over the parties may issue a support
1039	order if:
1040	(a) The individual seeking the order resides outside this
1041	in another state; or
1042	(b) The support enforcement agency seeking the order is
1043	located outside this in another state.
1044	(2) The tribunal may issue a temporary child support order
1045	if the tribunal determines that such an order is appropriate and
1046	the individual ordered to pay is:
1047	(a) A presumed father of the child;
1048	(b) Petitioning to have his paternity adjudicated;
1049	(c) Identified as the father of the child through genetic
1050	testing;
1051	(d) An alleged father who has declined to submit to
1052	genetic testing;
1053	(e) Shown by clear and convincing evidence to be the
1054	father of the child;
1055	(f) An acknowledged father as provided in s. 382.013, s.
1056	<u>382.016, or s. 742.10;</u>
1057	(g) The mother of the child; or
1058	(h) An individual who has been ordered to pay child
1059	support in a previous proceeding and the order has not been
1060	reversed or vacated
1061	(a) The respondent has signed a verified statement
1062	acknowledging parentage;
1063	(b) The respondent has been determined by or pursuant to
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1064 law to be the parent; or (c) There is other clear and convincing evidence that the 1065 1066 respondent is the child's parent. 1067 Upon finding, after notice and opportunity to be (3) 1068 heard, that an obligor owes a duty of support, the tribunal 1069 shall issue a support order directed to the obligor and may 1070 issue other orders pursuant to s. 88.3051. Section 34. Section 88.4021, Florida Statutes, is created 1071 to read: 1072 1073 88.4021 Proceeding to determine parentage.-A tribunal of 1074 this state authorized to determine parentage of a child may 1075 serve as a responding tribunal in a proceeding to determine 1076 parentage of a child brought under this act or a law or 1077 procedure substantially similar to this act. 1078 Section 35. The Division of Statutory Revision is directed 1079 to redesignate part V of chapter 88, Florida Statutes, as 1080 "ENFORCEMENT OF SUPPORT ORDER OF ANOTHER STATE WITHOUT 1081 REGISTRATION." 1082 Section 36. Section 88.5011, Florida Statutes, is amended 1083 to read: 1084 88.5011 Employer's receipt of income-withholding order of 1085 another state.-An income-withholding order issued in another 1086 state may be sent by or on behalf of the obligee, or by the 1087 support enforcement agency, to the person or entity defined as 1088 the obligor's employer under the income deduction law of this state or payor as defined by s. 61.046, without first filing a 1089 petition or comparable pleading or registering the order with a 1090 1091 tribunal of this state.

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1092 Section 37. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 1093 88.50211, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1094 88.50211 Employer's compliance with income-withholding 1095 order of another state.-

(3) Except as otherwise provided by subsection (4) and s.
88.5031, the employer shall withhold and distribute the funds as directed in the withholding order by complying with the terms of the order which specify:

(b) The person or agency designated to receive payments and the address to which the payments are to be forwarded;

1102 Section 38. Section 88.5031, Florida Statutes, is amended 1103 to read:

1104 88.5031 Employer's compliance with two or more multiple 1105 income-withholding orders.-If the obligor's employer receives 1106 two or more multiple income-withholding orders with respect to 1107 the earnings of the same obligor, the employer satisfies the terms of the multiple orders if the employer complies with the 1108 1109 law of the state of the obligor's principal place of employment 1110 to establish the priorities for withholding and allocating income withheld for two or more multiple child support obligees. 1111 1112 Section 39. Section 88.5041, Florida Statutes, is amended

1113 to read:

1114 88.5041 Immunity from civil liability.—An employer <u>that</u> 1115 who complies with an income-withholding order issued in another 1116 state in accordance with this article is not subject to civil 1117 liability to an individual or agency with regard to the 1118 employer's withholding of child support from the obligor's 1119 income.

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1120 Section 40. Section 88.5051, Florida Statutes, is amended 1121 to read: 88.5051 Penalties for noncompliance.-An employer that who 1122 1123 willfully fails to comply with an income-withholding order 1124 issued by another state and received for enforcement is subject 1125 to the same penalties that may be imposed for noncompliance with 1126 an order issued by a tribunal of this state. Section 41. Section 88.5061, Florida Statutes, is amended 1127 to read: 1128 88.5061 Contest by obligor.-1129 1130 An obligor may contest the validity or enforcement of (1)1131 an income-withholding order issued in another state and received 1132 directly by an employer in this state by registering the order 1133 in a tribunal of this state and filing a contest to that order as provided in part VI of this chapter, or otherwise contesting 1134 1135 the order in the same manner as if the order had been issued by 1136 a tribunal of this state. Section 88.6041, choice of law, 1137 applies to the contest. (2) 1138 The obligor shall give notice of the contest to: A support enforcement agency providing services to the 1139 (a) 1140 obligee; 1141 Each employer that has directly received an income-(b) 1142 withholding order relating to the obligor; and 1143 The person or agency designated to receive payments in (C) the income-withholding order, or if no person or agency is 1144 1145 designated, to the obligee. 1146 Section 42. Subsection (1) of section 88.5071, Florida 1147 Statutes, is amended to read:

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1148	88.5071 Administrative enforcement of orders
1149	(1) A party or support enforcement agency seeking to
1150	enforce a support order or an income-withholding order, or both,
1151	issued <u>in</u> by a tribunal of another state <u>or a foreign support</u>
1152	order may send the documents required for registering the order
1153	to a support enforcement agency of this state.
1154	Section 43. (1) The Division of Statutory Revision is
1155	directed to redesignate part VI of chapter 88, Florida Statutes,
1156	as "REGISTRATION, ENFORCEMENT, AND MODIFICATION OF SUPPORT
1157	ORDER."
1158	(2) The Division of Statutory Revision is directed to
1159	divide part VI of chapter 88, Florida Statutes, into subpart A,
1160	consisting of ss. 88.6011-88.6041, Florida Statutes, to be
1161	entitled "Registration and Enforcement of Support Order;"
1162	subpart B, consisting of ss. 88.6051-88.6081, Florida Statutes,
1163	to be entitled "Contest of Validity or Enforcement;" subpart C,
1164	consisting of ss. 88.6091-88.6141, Florida Statutes, to be
1165	entitled "Registration and Modification of Child Support Order
1166	of Another State;" and subpart D, consisting of ss. 88.6151 and
1167	88.6161, Florida Statutes, to be entitled "Registration and
1168	Modification of Foreign Child Support Order."
1169	Section 44. Section 88.6011, Florida Statutes, is amended
1170	to read:
1171	88.6011 Registration of order for enforcement.—A support
1172	order or an income-withholding order issued <u>in</u> by a tribunal of
1173	another state or a foreign support order may be registered in
1174	this state for enforcement.

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1175 Section 45. Section 88.6021, Florida Statutes, is amended 1176 to read:

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88.6021 Procedure to register order for enforcement.-

(1) Except as otherwise provided in s. 88.7061, a support order or income-withholding order of another state or a foreign support order may be registered in this state by sending the following records documents and information to the appropriate tribunal in this state:

1183 (a) A letter of transmittal to the tribunal requesting1184 registration and enforcement.

(b) Two copies, including one certified copy, of <u>the order</u> all orders to be registered, including any modification of <u>the</u> an order.

(c) A sworn statement by the <u>person requesting party</u> seeking registration or a certified statement by the custodian of the records showing the amount of any arrearage.

(d) The name of the obligor and, if known:

1. The obligor's address and social security number.

1193 2. The name and address of the obligor's employer and any 1194 other source of income of the obligor.

1195 3. A description and the location of property of the 1196 obligor in this state not exempt from execution.

(e) <u>Except as otherwise provided in s. 88.3121</u>, the name and address of the obligee and, if applicable, the agency or person to whom support payments are to be remitted.

(2) On receipt of a request for registration, the registering tribunal shall cause the order to be filed as <u>an</u> order of a tribunal of another state or a foreign support order

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1203	a foreign judgment, together with one copy of the documents and
1204	information, regardless of their form.
1205	(3) A petition or comparable pleading seeking a remedy
1206	that must be affirmatively sought under other law of this state
1207	may be filed at the same time as the request for registration or
1208	later. The pleading must specify the grounds for the remedy
1209	sought.
1210	(4) If two or more orders are in effect, the person
1211	requesting registration shall:
1212	(a) Furnish to the tribunal a copy of every support order
1213	asserted to be in effect in addition to the documents specified
1214	in this section;
1215	(b) Specify the order alleged to be the controlling order,
1216	if any; and
1217	(c) Specify the amount of consolidated arrears, if any.
1218	(5) A request for a determination of which is the
1219	controlling order may be filed separately or with a request for
1220	registration and enforcement or for registration and
1221	modification. The person requesting registration shall give
1222	notice of the request to each party whose rights may be affected
1223	by the determination.
1224	Section 46. Section 88.6031, Florida Statutes, is amended
1225	to read:
1226	88.6031 Effect of registration for enforcement
1227	(1) A support order or income-withholding order issued in
1228	another state <u>or a foreign support order</u> is registered when the
1229	order is filed in the registering tribunal of this state.
1230	(2) A registered <u>support</u> order issued in another state <u>or</u>
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1231	a foreign country is enforceable in the same manner and is
1232	subject to the same procedures as an order issued by a tribunal
1233	of this state.
1234	(3) Except as otherwise provided in this <u>act</u> article, a
1235	tribunal of this state shall recognize and enforce, but may not
1236	modify, a registered <u>support</u> order if the issuing tribunal had
1237	jurisdiction.
1238	Section 47. Section 88.6041, Florida Statutes, is amended
1239	to read:
1240	88.6041 Choice of law
1241	(1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (4), the
1242	law of the issuing state <u>or foreign country</u> governs <u>:</u>
1243	(a) The nature, extent, amount, and duration of current
1244	payments <u>under a registered support order;</u> and other obligations
1245	of support and
1246	(b) The computation and payment of arrearages and accrual
1247	of interest on the arrearages under the order; and
1248	(c) The existence and satisfaction of other obligations
1249	under the support order.
1250	(2) In a proceeding for <u>arrears under a registered support</u>
1251	<u>order</u> arrearages, the statute of limitation under the laws of
1252	this state or of the issuing state <u>or foreign country</u> , whichever
1253	is longer, applies.
1254	(3) A responding tribunal of this state shall apply the
1255	procedures and remedies of this state to enforce current support
1256	and collect arrears and interest due on a support order of
1257	another state or foreign country registered in this state.

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1258	(4) After a tribunal of this or another state determines
1259	which is the controlling order and issues an order consolidating
1260	arrears, if any, a tribunal of this state shall prospectively
1261	apply the law of the state or foreign country issuing the
1262	controlling order, including its law on interest on arrears, on
1263	current and future support, and on consolidated arrears.
1264	Section 48. Section 88.6051, Florida Statutes, is amended
1265	to read:
1266	88.6051 Notice of registration of order
1267	(1) When a support order or income-withholding order
1268	issued in another state <u>or a foreign support order</u> is
1269	registered, the registering tribunal <u>of this state</u> shall notify
1270	the nonregistering party. The notice must be accompanied by a
1271	copy of the registered order and the documents and relevant
1272	information accompanying the order.
1273	(2) <u>A</u> The notice must inform the nonregistering party:
1274	(a) That a registered order is enforceable as of the date
1275	of registration in the same manner as an order issued by a
1276	tribunal of this state.
1277	(b) That a hearing to contest the validity or enforcement
1278	of the registered order must be requested within 20 days after
1279	the date of mailing or personal service of the notice, unless
1280	the registered order is under s. 88.7071.
1281	(c) That failure to contest the validity or enforcement of
1282	the registered order in a timely manner will result in
1283	confirmation of the order and enforcement of the order and the
1284	alleged arrearages and precludes further contest of that order
1285	with respect to any matter that could have been asserted.
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1286	(d) Of the amount of any alleged arrearages.
1287	(3) If the registering party asserts that two or more
1288	orders are in effect, a notice must also:
1289	(a) Identify the two or more orders and the order alleged
1290	by the registering party to be the controlling order and the
1291	consolidated arrears, if any;
1292	(b) Notify the nonregistering party of the right to a
1293	determination of which is the controlling order;
1294	(c) State that the procedures provided in subsection (2)
1295	apply to the determination of which is the controlling order;
1296	and
1297	(d) State that failure to contest the validity or
1298	enforcement of the order alleged to be the controlling order in
1299	a timely manner may result in confirmation that the order is the
1300	controlling order.
1301	(4) (3) Upon registration of an income-withholding order
1302	for enforcement, the support enforcement agency or the
1303	registering tribunal shall notify the obligor's employer
1304	pursuant to chapter 61 or other income deduction law of this
1305	state.
1306	Section 49. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 88.6061,
1307	Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
1308	88.6061 Procedure to contest validity or enforcement of
1309	registered order
1310	(1) A nonregistering party seeking to contest the validity
1311	or enforcement of a registered order in this state shall request
1312	a hearing within <u>the time required by s. 88.6051</u> 20 days after
1313	notice of the registration. The nonregistering party may seek to
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1314 vacate the registration, to assert any defense to an allegation 1315 of noncompliance with the registered order, or to contest the 1316 remedies being sought or the amount of any alleged arrearages 1317 pursuant to s. 88.6071.

1318 (2) If the nonregistering party fails to contest the
1319 validity or enforcement of the registered <u>support</u> order in a
1320 timely manner, the order is confirmed by operation of law.

1321Section 50.Section 88.6071, Florida Statutes, is amended1322to read:

1323

88.6071 Contest of registration or enforcement.-

(1) A party contesting the validity or enforcement of a
registered <u>support</u> order or seeking to vacate the registration
has the burden of proving one or more of the following defenses:

1327 (a) The issuing tribunal lacked personal jurisdiction over1328 the contesting party;

(b) The order was obtained by fraud;

1330 (c) The order has been vacated, suspended, or modified by 1331 a later order;

1332 (d) The issuing tribunal has stayed the order pending 1333 appeal;

(e) There is a defense under the law of this state to the remedy sought;

1336 (f) Full or partial payment has been made; or

1337 (g) The statute of limitation under s. 88.6041 precludes1338 enforcement of some or all of the alleged arrearages; or

1339 (h) The alleged controlling order is not the controlling 1340 order. 1341 (2) If a party presents evidence establishing a full or Page 48 of 69

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partial defense under subsection (1), a tribunal may stay enforcement of <u>a</u> the registered <u>support</u> order, continue the proceeding to permit production of additional relevant evidence, and issue other appropriate orders. An uncontested portion of the registered <u>support</u> order may be enforced by all remedies available under the law of this state.

1348 (3) If the contesting party does not establish a defense
1349 under subsection (1) to the validity or enforcement of <u>a</u>
1350 registered support the order, the registering tribunal shall
1351 issue an order confirming the order.

1352Section 51.Section 88.6081, Florida Statutes, is amended1353to read:

1354 88.6081 Confirmed order.-Confirmation of a registered 1355 <u>support</u> order, whether by operation of law or after notice and 1356 hearing, precludes further contest of the order with respect to 1357 any matter that could have been asserted at the time of 1358 registration.

1359 Section 52. Section 88.6091, Florida Statutes, is amended 1360 to read:

1361 Procedure to register child support order of 88.6091 1362 another state for modification.-A party or support enforcement 1363 agency seeking to modify, or to modify and enforce, a child 1364 support order issued in another state shall register that order 1365 in this state in the same manner provided in ss. 88.6011-88.6081 1366 88.6011-88.6041 if the order has not been registered. A petition 1367 for modification may be filed at the same time as a request for 1368 registration, or later. The pleading must specify the grounds 1369 for modification.

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1370 Section 53. Section 88.6111, Florida Statutes, is amended 1371 to read: 88.6111 Modification of child support order of another 1372 1373 state.-1374 If s. 88.6131 does not apply, upon petition, a (1)1375 tribunal of this state may modify After a child support order 1376 issued in another state which is has been registered in this 1377 state, the responding tribunal of this state may modify that 1378 order only if, s. 88.6131 does not apply and after notice and hearing, the tribunal it finds that: 1379 1380 (a) The following requirements are met: 1381 Neither the child, nor the individual obligee who is an 1. 1382 individual, nor and the obligor resides do not reside in the 1383 issuing state; 1384 2. A petitioner who is a nonresident of this state seeks 1385 modification; and 1386 The respondent is subject to the personal jurisdiction 3. 1387 of the tribunal of this state; or 1388 This state is the state of residence of the child, or (b) 1389 a party who is an individual, is subject to the personal 1390 jurisdiction of the tribunal of this state and all of the 1391 parties who are individuals have filed written consents in a 1392 record in the issuing tribunal for a tribunal of this state to 1393 modify the support order and assume continuing exclusive 1394 jurisdiction over the order. However, if the issuing state is a 1395 foreign jurisdiction that has not enacted a law or established procedures substantially similar to the procedures under this 1396 1397 act, the consent otherwise required of an individual residing in Page 50 of 69

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1398 this state is not required for the tribunal to assume 1399 jurisdiction to modify the child support order.

1400 (2) Modification of a registered child support order is 1401 subject to the same requirements, procedures, and defenses that 1402 apply to the modification of an order issued by a tribunal of 1403 this state and the order may be enforced and satisfied in the 1404 same manner.

(3) A tribunal of this state may not modify any aspect of
a child support order that may not be modified under the law of
the issuing state, including the duration of the obligation of
support. If two or more tribunals have issued child support
orders for the same obligor and <u>same</u> child, the order that
controls and must be so recognized under s. 88.2071 establishes
the aspects of the support order which are nonmodifiable.

1412 (4) In a proceeding to modify a child support order, the 1413 law of the state that is determined to have issued the initial 1414 controlling order governs the duration of the obligation of 1415 support. The obligor's fulfillment of the duty of support 1416 established by that order precludes imposition of a further 1417 obligation of support by a tribunal of this state.

1418 <u>(5)</u> (4) On issuance of an order <u>by a tribunal of this state</u> 1419 modifying a child support order issued in another state, <u>the</u> a 1420 tribunal of this state becomes the tribunal of continuing 1421 exclusive jurisdiction.

1422 (6) Notwithstanding subsections (1)-(5) and s. 88.2011(2), 1423 a tribunal of this state retains jurisdiction to modify an order 1424 issued by a tribunal of this state if: 1425 (a) One party resides in another state; and

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1426	(b) The other party resides outside the United States.
1427	Section 54. Section 88.6121, Florida Statutes, is amended
1428	to read:
1429	88.6121 Recognition of order modified in another stateIf
1430	<u>a child support order issued by</u> a tribunal of this state <u>is</u>
1431	modified shall recognize a modification of its earlier child
1432	support order by a tribunal of another state which assumed
1433	jurisdiction pursuant to <u>the Uniform Interstate Family Support</u>
1434	Act, a tribunal of this state this act or a law substantially
1435	similar to this act and, upon request, except as otherwise
1436	provided in this act, shall:
1437	(1) May enforce the order that was modified only as to
1438	arrears and interest amounts accruing before the modification.
1439	(2) Enforce only nonmodifiable aspects of that order.
1440	<u>(2)</u> May provide other appropriate relief only for
1441	violations of <u>its</u> that order which occurred before the effective
1442	date of the modification.
1443	(3)(4) Shall recognize the modifying order of the other
1444	state, upon registration, for the purpose of enforcement.
1445	Section 55. Section 88.6151, Florida Statutes, is created
1446	to read:
1447	88.6151 Jurisdiction to modify child support order of
1448	foreign country
1449	(1) Except as otherwise provided in s. 88.7111, if a
1450	foreign country lacks or refuses to exercise jurisdiction to
1451	modify its child support order pursuant to its laws, a tribunal
1452	of this state may assume jurisdiction to modify the child
1453	support order and bind all individuals subject to the personal
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1454	jurisdiction of the tribunal whether the consent to modification
1455	of a child support order otherwise required of the individual
1456	pursuant to s. 88.6111 has been given or whether the individual
1457	seeking modification is a resident of this state or of the
1458	foreign country.
1459	(2) An order issued by a tribunal of this state modifying
1460	a foreign child support order pursuant to this section is the
1461	controlling order.
1462	Section 56. Section 88.6161, Florida Statutes, is created
1463	to read:
1464	88.6161 Procedure to register child support order of
1465	foreign country for modificationA party or support enforcement
1466	agency seeking to modify, or to modify and enforce, a foreign
1467	child support order not under the convention may register that
1468	order in this state under ss. 88.6011-88.6081 if the order has
1469	not been registered. A petition for modification may be filed at
1470	the same time as a request for registration, or at another time.
1471	The petition must specify the grounds for modification.
1472	Section 57. The Division of Statutory Revision is directed
1473	to redesignate part VII of chapter 88, Florida Statutes, as
1474	"SUPPORT PROCEEDING UNDER CONVENTION."
1475	Section 58. Section 88.7011, Florida Statutes, is
1476	repealed.
1477	Section 59. Section 88.70111, Florida Statutes, is created
1478	to read:
1479	88.70111 DefinitionsAs used in this part, the term:

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1480	(1) "Application" means a request under the convention by
1481	an obligee or obligor, or on behalf of a child, made through a
1482	central authority for assistance from another central authority.
1483	(2) "Central authority" means the entity designated by the
1484	United States or a foreign country described in s. 88.1011(5)(d)
1485	to perform the functions specified in the convention.
1486	(3) "Convention support order" means a support order of a
1487	tribunal of a foreign country described in s. 88.1011(5)(d).
1488	(4) "Direct request" means a petition filed by an
1489	individual in a tribunal of this state in a proceeding involving
1490	an obligee, obligor, or child residing outside the United
1491	States.
1492	(5) "Foreign central authority" means the entity
1493	designated by a foreign country described in s. 88.1011(5)(d) to
1494	perform the functions specified in the convention.
1495	(6) "Foreign support agreement":
1496	(a) Means an agreement for support in a record that:
1497	1. Is enforceable as a support order in the country of
1498	origin;
1499	2. Has been:
1500	a. Formally drawn up or registered as an authentic
1501	instrument by a foreign tribunal; or
1502	b. Authenticated by or concluded, registered, or filed
1503	with a foreign tribunal; and
1504	3. May be reviewed and modified by a foreign tribunal; and
1505	(b) Includes a maintenance arrangement or authentic
1506	instrument under the convention.

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1507	(7) "United States central authority" means the Secretary
1508	of the United States Department of Health and Human Services.
1509	Section 60. Section 88.7021, Florida Statutes, is created
1510	to read:
1511	88.7021 ApplicabilityThis part applies only to a support
1512	proceeding under the convention. In such a proceeding, if a
1513	provision of this part is inconsistent with parts I through VI,
1514	this part controls.
1515	Section 61. Section 88.7031, Florida Statutes, is created
1516	to read:
1517	88.7031 Relationship of Department of Revenue to United
1518	States central authorityThe Department of Revenue is
1519	recognized as the agency designated by the United States central
1520	authority to perform specific functions under the convention.
1521	Section 62. Section 88.7041, Florida Statutes, is created
1522	to read:
1523	88.7041 Initiation by Department of Revenue of support
1524	proceeding under convention
1525	(1) In a support proceeding under this part, the
1526	Department of Revenue shall:
1527	(a) Transmit and receive applications; and
1528	(b) Initiate or facilitate the institution of a proceeding
1529	regarding an application in a tribunal of this state.
1530	(2) The following support proceedings are available to an
1531	obligee under the convention:
1532	(a) Recognition or recognition and enforcement of a
1533	foreign support order.
1534	(b) Enforcement of a support order issued or recognized in
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1535	this state.
1536	(c) Establishment of a support order if there is no
1537	existing order, including, where necessary, determination of
1538	parentage of a child.
1539	(d) Establishment of a support order if recognition of a
1540	foreign support order is refused under s. 88.7081(2)(b), (d), or
1541	<u>(i).</u>
1542	(e) Modification of a support order of a tribunal of this
1543	state.
1544	(f) Modification of a support order of a tribunal of
1545	another state or a foreign country.
1546	(3) The following support proceedings are available under
1547	the convention to an obligor against whom there is an existing
1548	support order:
1549	(a) Recognition of an order suspending or limiting
1550	enforcement of an existing support order of a tribunal of this
1551	state.
1552	(b) Modification of a support order of a tribunal of this
1553	state.
1554	(c) Modification of a support order of a tribunal of
1555	another state or foreign country.
1556	(4) A tribunal of this state may not require security,
1557	bond, or deposit, however described, to guarantee the payment of
1558	costs and expenses in proceedings under the convention.
1559	Section 63. Section 88.7051, Florida Statutes, is created
1560	to read:
1561	88.7051 Direct request
1562	(1) A petitioner may file a direct request seeking
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1563	establishment or modification of a support order or
1564	determination of parentage of a child. In the proceeding, the
1565	law of this state applies.
1566	(2) A petitioner may file a direct request in a tribunal
1567	of this state seeking recognition and enforcement of a support
1568	order or support agreement. In such a proceeding, the provisions
1569	of ss. 88.7061-88.7131 apply.
1570	(3) In a direct request for recognition and enforcement of
1571	a convention support order or foreign support agreement:
1572	(a) A security, bond, or deposit is not required to
1573	guarantee the payment of costs and expenses; and
1574	(b) An obligee or obligor that in the issuing country has
1575	benefited from free legal assistance is entitled to benefit, at
1576	least to the same extent, from any free legal assistance
1577	provided for by the law of this state under the same
1578	circumstances.
1579	(4) An individual filing a direct request is not entitled
1580	to assistance from the Department of Revenue.
1581	(5) This part does not prevent the application of laws of
1582	this state that provide simplified, more expeditious rules
1583	regarding a direct request for recognition and enforcement of a
1584	foreign support order or foreign support agreement.
1585	Section 64. Section 88.7061, Florida Statutes, is created
1586	to read:
1587	88.7061 Registration of convention support order
1588	(1) Except as otherwise provided in this part, a party who
1589	is an individual or a support enforcement agency seeking
1590	recognition of a convention support order shall register the
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1591	order in this state as provided in part VI of this chapter.
1592	(2) Notwithstanding ss. 88.3111 and 88.6021(1), a request
1593	for registration of a convention support order must be
1594	accompanied by the following:
1595	(a) A complete text of the support order, or an abstract
1596	or extract of the support order drawn up by the issuing foreign
1597	tribunal, which may be in the form recommended by the Hague
1598	Conference on Private International Law.
1599	(b) A record stating that the support order is enforceable
1600	in the issuing country.
1601	(c) If the respondent did not appear and was not
1602	represented in the proceedings in the issuing country, a record
1603	attesting, as appropriate, either that the respondent had proper
1604	notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard, or
1605	that the respondent had proper notice of the support order and
1606	the opportunity to be heard in a challenge or appeal on fact or
1607	law before a tribunal.
1608	(d) A record showing the amount of any arrears, and the
1609	date the amount was calculated.
1610	(e) A record showing a requirement for automatic
1611	adjustment of the amount of support, if any, and the information
1612	necessary to make the appropriate calculations, if necessary.
1613	(f) A record showing the extent to which the applicant
1614	received free legal assistance in the issuing country.
1615	(3) A request for registration of a convention support
1616	order may seek recognition and partial enforcement of the order.
1617	(4) A tribunal of this state may vacate the registration
1618	of a convention support order without the filing of a contest
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1619	under s. 88.7071 only if, acting on its own motion, the tribunal
1620	finds that recognition and enforcement of the order would be
1621	manifestly incompatible with public policy.
1622	(5) The tribunal shall promptly notify the parties of the
1623	registration or the order vacating the registration of a
1624	convention support order.
1625	Section 65. Section 88.7071, Florida Statutes, is created
1626	to read:
1627	88.7071 Contest of registered convention support order
1628	(1) Except as otherwise provided in this part, ss.
1629	88.6051-88.6081 apply to a contest of a registered convention
1630	support order.
1631	(2) A party contesting a registered convention support
1632	order shall file a contest not later than 30 days after notice
1633	of the registration, but if the contesting party does not reside
1634	in the United States, the contest must be filed not later than
1635	60 days after notice of the registration.
1636	(3) If the nonregistering party fails to contest the
1637	registered convention support order by the time specified in
1638	subsection (2), the order is enforceable.
1639	(4) A contest of a registered convention support order may
1640	be based only on grounds set forth in s. 88.7081. The contesting
1641	party bears the burden of proof.
1642	(5) In a contest of a registered convention support order,
1643	a tribunal of this state:
1644	(a) Is bound by the findings of fact on which the foreign
1645	tribunal based its jurisdiction; and
1646	(b) May not review the merits of the order.
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1647	(6) A tribunal of this state deciding a contest of a
1648	registered convention support order shall promptly notify the
1649	parties of its decision.
1650	(7) A challenge or appeal, if any, does not stay the
1651	enforcement of a convention support order unless there are
1652	exceptional circumstances.
1653	Section 66. Section 88.7081, Florida Statutes, is created
1654	to read:
1655	88.7081 Recognition and enforcement of convention support
1656	order
1657	(1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2), a
1658	tribunal of this state shall recognize and enforce a registered
1659	convention support order.
1660	(2) The following grounds are the only grounds on which a
1661	tribunal of this state may refuse recognition and enforcement of
1662	a registered convention support order:
1663	(a) Recognition and enforcement of the order is manifestly
1664	incompatible with public policy, including the failure of the
1665	issuing tribunal to observe minimum standards of due process,
1666	which include notice and an opportunity to be heard;
1667	(b) The issuing tribunal lacked personal jurisdiction
1668	consistent with s. 88.2011;
1669	(c) The order is not enforceable in the issuing country;
1670	(d) The order was obtained by fraud in connection with a
1671	matter of procedure;
1672	(e) A record transmitted in accordance with s. 88.7061
1673	lacks authenticity or integrity;
1674	(f) A proceeding between the same parties and having the
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1675	same purpose is pending before a tribunal of this state and that
1676	proceeding was the first to be filed;
1677	(g) The order is incompatible with a more recent support
1678	order involving the same parties and having the same purpose if
1679	the more recent support order is entitled to recognition and
1680	enforcement under this act in this state;
1681	(h) Payment, to the extent alleged arrears have been paid
1682	in whole or in part;
1683	(i) In a case in which the respondent neither appeared nor
1684	was represented in the proceeding in the issuing foreign
1685	country:
1686	1. If the law of that country provides for prior notice of
1687	proceedings, the respondent did not have proper notice of the
1688	proceedings and an opportunity to be heard; or
1689	2. If the law of that country does not provide for prior
1690	notice of the proceedings, the respondent did not have proper
1691	notice of the order and an opportunity to be heard in a
1692	challenge or appeal on fact or law before a tribunal; or
1693	(j) The order was made in violation of s. 88.7111.
1694	(3) If a tribunal of this state does not recognize a
1695	convention support order under paragraph (2)(b), (d), (f), or
1696	<u>(i):</u>
1697	(a) The tribunal may not dismiss the proceeding without
1698	allowing a reasonable time for a party to request the
1699	establishment of a new convention support order; and
1700	(b) The Department of Revenue shall take all appropriate
1701	measures to request a child support order for the obligee if the
1702	application for recognition and enforcement was received under
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1703	<u>s. 88.7041.</u>
1704	Section 67. Section 88.7091, Florida Statutes, is created
1705	to read:
1706	88.7091 Partial enforcementIf a tribunal of this state
1707	does not recognize and enforce a convention support order in its
1708	entirety, it shall enforce any severable part of the order. An
1709	application or direct request may seek recognition and partial
1710	enforcement of a convention support order.
1711	Section 68. Section 88.7101, Florida Statutes, is created
1712	to read:
1713	88.7101 Foreign support agreement
1714	(1) Except as provided in subsections (3) and (4), a
1715	tribunal of this state shall recognize and enforce a foreign
1716	support agreement registered in this state.
1717	(2) An application or direct request for recognition and
1718	enforcement of a foreign support agreement must be accompanied
1719	by:
1720	(a) A complete text of the foreign support agreement; and
1721	(b) A record stating that the foreign support agreement is
1722	enforceable as an order of support in the issuing country.
1723	(3) A tribunal of this state may vacate the registration
1724	of a foreign support agreement only if, acting on its own
1725	motion, the tribunal finds that recognition and enforcement
1726	would be manifestly incompatible with public policy.
1727	(4) In a contest of a foreign support agreement, a
1728	tribunal of this state may refuse recognition and enforcement of
1729	the agreement if it finds:
1730	(a) Recognition and enforcement of the agreement is
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1731	manifestly incompatible with public policy;
1732	(b) The agreement was obtained by fraud or falsification;
1733	(c) The agreement is incompatible with a support order
1734	issued between the same parties and having the same purpose in
1735	this state, another state, or a foreign country if the support
1736	order is entitled to recognition in this state; or
1737	(d) The record submitted under subsection (2) lacks
1738	authenticity or integrity.
1739	(5) A proceeding for recognition and enforcement of a
1740	foreign support agreement must be suspended during the pendency
1741	of a challenge to or appeal of the agreement before a tribunal
1742	of another state or a foreign country.
1743	Section 69. Section 88.7111, Florida Statutes, is created
1744	to read:
1745	88.7111 Modification of convention child support order
1746	(1) A tribunal of this state may not modify a convention
1747	child support order if the obligee remains a resident of the
1748	foreign country where the support order was issued unless:
1749	(a) The obligee submits to the jurisdiction of a tribunal
1750	of this state, either expressly or by defending on the merits of
1751	the case without objecting to the jurisdiction at the first
1752	available opportunity; or
1753	(b) The foreign tribunal lacks or refuses to exercise
1754	jurisdiction to modify its support order or issue a new support
1755	order.
1756	(2) If a tribunal of this state does not modify a
1757	convention child support order because the order is not
1758	recognized in this state, the provisions of s. 88.7081(3) apply.
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1759	Section 70. Section 88.7121, Florida Statutes, is created
1760	to read:
1761	88.7121 Personal information; limit on usePersonal
1762	information gathered or transmitted under this part may be used
1763	only for the purposes for which it was gathered or transmitted.
1764	Section 71. Section 88.7131, Florida Statutes, is created
1765	to read:
1766	88.7131 Record in original language; English translation
1767	A record filed with a tribunal of this state under this part
1768	must be in the original language and, if not in English, must be
1769	accompanied by an English translation.
1770	Section 72. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section
1771	88.8011, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
1772	88.8011 Grounds for rendition
1773	(2) The Governor of this state may:
1774	(b) On the demand <u>of</u> by the Governor of another state,
1775	surrender an individual found in this state who is charged
1776	criminally in the other state with having failed to provide for
1777	the support of an obligee.
1778	Section 73. Section 88.9011, Florida Statutes, is amended
1779	to read:
1780	88.9011 Uniformity of application and construction <u>In</u>
1781	applying and construing this uniform act, consideration must be
1782	given to the need to promote uniformity of This act shall be
1783	applied and construed to effectuate its general purpose to make
1784	uniform the law with respect to <u>its</u> the subject <u>matter</u> of this
1785	act among states that enact enacting it.
1786	Section 74. Section 88.9021, Florida Statutes, is created
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1787 to read:

1788 <u>88.9021</u> Transitional provision.—This act applies to 1789 proceedings begun on or after the effective date of this act to 1790 <u>establish a support order or determine parentage of a child or</u> 1791 <u>to register, recognize, enforce, or modify a prior support</u> 1792 order, determination, or agreement, whenever issued or entered.

1793 Section 75. Section 88.9031, Florida Statutes, is amended 1794 to read:

1795 88.9031 Severability clause.—If any provision of this act 1796 or its application to any person or circumstance is held 1797 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or 1798 applications of this act which can be given effect without the 1799 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions 1800 of this act are severable.

Section 76. Paragraph (a) of subsection (7) of section 1802 61.13, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1803 61.13 Support of children; parenting and time-sharing; 1804 powers of court.-

1805 (7) (a) Each party to any paternity or support proceeding 1806 is required to file with the tribunal as defined in s. 1807 88.1011(22) and State Case Registry upon entry of an order, and 1808 to update as appropriate, information on location and identity 1809 of the party, including social security number, residential and mailing addresses, telephone number, driver's license number, 1810 and name, address, and telephone number of employer. Each party 1811 1812 to any paternity or child support proceeding in a non-Title IV-D 1813 case shall meet the above requirements for updating the tribunal 1814 and State Case Registry.

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(5)

1815Section 77. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section1816827.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1817 827.06 Nonsupport of dependents.-

1818

(b) The element of knowledge may be proven by evidence that a court or tribunal as defined by s. 88.1011(22) has entered an order that obligates the defendant to provide the support.

Section 78. Upon the passage of this bill, the Department of Revenue is directed to apply for a waiver from the Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement pursuant to the state plan requirement under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act.

Section 79. Effective July 1, 2011, subsection (9) of section 61.08, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (10), a new subsection (9) is added to that section, and subsections (2), (7), and (8) of that section are amended, to read:

1832

61.08 Alimony.-

1833 In determining whether to award alimony or (2)maintenance, the court shall first make a specific factual 1834 1835 determination as to whether either party has an actual need for 1836 alimony or maintenance and whether either party has the ability 1837 to pay alimony or maintenance. If the court finds that a party 1838 has a need for alimony or maintenance and that the other party 1839 has the ability to pay alimony or maintenance, then in 1840 determining the proper type and amount of alimony or maintenance under subsections (5)-(8), the court shall consider all relevant 1841 1842 factors, including, but not limited to:

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1843 (a) The standard of living established during the1844 marriage.

1845

(b) The duration of the marriage.

1846 (c) The age and the physical and emotional condition of 1847 each party.

(d) The financial resources of each party, including the nonmarital and the marital assets and liabilities distributed to each.

(e) The earning capacities, educational levels, vocational
skills, and employability of the parties and, when applicable,
the time necessary for either party to acquire sufficient
education or training to enable such party to find appropriate
employment.

(f) The contribution of each party to the marriage,
including, but not limited to, services rendered in homemaking,
child care, education, and career building of the other party.

(g) The responsibilities each party will have with regard to any minor children they have in common.

(h) The tax treatment and consequences to both parties of any alimony award, including the designation of all or a portion of the payment as a nontaxable, nondeductible payment.

1864 (i) All sources of income available to either party,
1865 including income available to either party through investments
1866 of any asset held by that party.

1867 (j) Any other factor necessary to do equity and justice 1868 between the parties.

1869 (7) Durational alimony may be awarded when permanent1870 periodic alimony is inappropriate. The purpose of durational

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1871 alimony is to provide a party with economic assistance for a set 1872 period of time following a marriage of short or moderate 1873 duration or following a marriage of long duration if there is no 1874 ongoing need for support on a permanent basis. An award of 1875 durational alimony terminates upon the death of either party or 1876 upon the remarriage of the party receiving alimony. The amount 1877 of an award of durational alimony may be modified or terminated 1878 based upon a substantial change in circumstances in accordance 1879 with s. 61.14. However, the length of an award of durational 1880 alimony may not be modified except under exceptional 1881 circumstances and may not exceed the length of the marriage.

1882 Permanent alimony may be awarded to provide for the (8) needs and necessities of life as they were established during 1883 1884 the marriage of the parties for a party who lacks the financial 1885 ability to meet his or her needs and necessities of life 1886 following a dissolution of marriage. Permanent alimony may be 1887 awarded following a marriage of long duration if such an award 1888 is appropriate upon consideration of the factors set forth in 1889 subsection (2), following a marriage of moderate duration if such an award is appropriate based upon clear and convincing 1890 1891 evidence after consideration of the factors set forth in 1892 subsection (2), or following a marriage of short duration if 1893 there are written findings of exceptional circumstances. In 1894 awarding permanent alimony, the court shall include a finding that no other form of alimony is fair and reasonable under the 1895 1896 circumstances of the parties. An award of permanent alimony 1897 terminates upon the death of either party or upon the remarriage 1898 of the party receiving alimony. An award may be modified or

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1899 terminated based upon a substantial change in circumstances or 1900 upon the existence of a supportive relationship in accordance 1901 with s. 61.14. 1902 (9) The award of alimony may not leave the payor with 1903 significantly less net income than the net income of the 1904 recipient unless there are written findings of exceptional 1905 circumstances. 1906 Section 80. Effective July 1, 2011, the amendments to s. 1907 61.08, Florida Statutes, made by this act apply to all initial 1908 awards of alimony entered after July 1, 2011, and to all 1909 modifications of alimony of such awards made after July 1, 2011. 1910 Such amendments may not serve as a basis to modify awards entered before July 1, 2011, or as a basis to change amounts or 1911 1912 duration of awards existing before July 1, 2011. The amendments to s. 61.08, Florida Statutes, made by this act are applicable 1913 to all cases pending on or filed after July 1, 2011. 1914 1915 Section 81. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this 1916 act, this act shall take effect upon the earlier of 90 days following Congress amending 42 U.S.C. s. 666(f) to allow or 1917 1918 require states to adopt the 2008 version of the Uniform 1919 Interstate Family Support Act, or 90 days following the state

1920 obtaining a waiver of its state plan requirement under Title IV-1921 D of the Social Security Act.

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