

FEB 16 2004
HUMAN RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE 2251
BY ALONS

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to marriage, providing an effective date, and
2 providing for retroactive applicability.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 2251

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 595.1B EXCLUSIVITY.

2 The rights, benefits, protections, responsibilities, and
3 other incidents of the legal status of marriage granted by
4 law, whether derived from statute, administrative or court
5 rule, city or county ordinance, policy, bylaw, common law, or
6 any other source of civil law, shall not be conferred upon,
7 contracted for, or otherwise provided to unmarried couples or
8 groups of persons.

9 Sec. 2. Section 595.20, Code 2003, is amended to read as
10 follows:

11 595.20 FOREIGN MARRIAGES -- OTHER LEGAL AGREEMENTS --
12 VALIDITY.

13 1. A marriage which is solemnized in any other state,
14 territory, country, or any foreign jurisdiction which is valid
15 in that state, territory, country, or other foreign
16 jurisdiction, is valid in this state if the parties meet the
17 requirements for validity pursuant to section 595.2,
18 subsection 1, and if the marriage would not otherwise be
19 declared void.

20 2. A civil contract or other legal arrangement which is
21 valid in any other state, territory, country, or any foreign
22 jurisdiction and which does not confer the legal status of
23 marriage upon an unmarried couple or group of persons but does
24 confer upon an unmarried couple or group of persons the
25 rights, benefits, protections, responsibilities, or other
26 incidents of marriage granted by law, whether derived from
27 statute, administrative or court rule, city or county
28 ordinance, policy, bylaw, common law, or other source of civil
29 law, is not valid in this state.

30 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE AND RETROACTIVE APPLICABILITY.

31 This Act, being deemed of immediate importance, takes effect
32 upon enactment and is retroactively applicable to January 1,
33 1999.

34 EXPLANATION

35 This bill provides that the rights, benefits, protections,

1 responsibilities, and other incidents of the legal status of
2 marriage granted by law, derived from various sources, are not
3 to be conferred upon, contracted for, or otherwise provided to
4 unmarried couples or groups of persons. Additionally, the
5 bill provides that a civil contract or other legal arrangement
6 which is valid in any other state, territory, country, or any
7 foreign jurisdiction and which does not confer the legal
8 status of marriage upon an unmarried couple or group of
9 persons but does confer upon them the rights, benefits,
10 protections, responsibilities, or other incidents of marriage
11 granted by law, derived from a number of sources, is not valid
12 in this state.

13 The bill takes effect upon enactment and is retroactively
14 applicable to January 1, 1999.

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