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State of Minnesota

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 3204

- 04/04/2023 Authored by Moller; Scott; Hudson; Anderson, P. H.; Baker and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary Finance and Civil Law
- 04/02/2024 Adoption of Report: Placed on the General Register as Amended
Read for the Second Time
- 04/24/2024 Calendar for the Day, Amended
Read Third Time as Amended
Passed by the House as Amended and transmitted to the Senate to include Floor Amendments
- 05/07/2024 Returned to the House as Amended by the Senate
The House concurred in the Senate Amendments
Read Third Time as Amended by the Senate
Repassed the bill as Amended by the Senate
- 05/14/2024 Presented to Governor
- 05/15/2024 Governor Approval

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to family law; modifying parenting time and spousal maintenance

1.3 provisions; modifying and updating provisions governing antenuptial and

1.4 postnuptial agreements; establishing rights and responsibilities relating to assisted

1.5 reproduction; directing the revisor of statutes to update terms used in statute;

1.6 amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 257.025; 518.131, subdivisions 1,

1.7 11; 518.14; 518.17, subdivisions 1, 3; 518.175, subdivisions 1, 6; 518.552,

1.8 subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 6, by adding subdivisions; 518A.39, subdivision 1; 519.11;

1.9 Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 518A.39, subdivision 2; proposing

1.10 coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 518; proposing coding for new

1.11 law as Minnesota Statutes, chapter 257E; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2022,

1.12 sections 257.56; 518A.39, subdivision 3.

1.13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.14 ARTICLE 1

1.15 PARENTING TIME

1.16 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 257.025, is amended to read:

1.17 **257.025 CUSTODY AND PARENTING TIME DISPUTES.**

1.18 (a) In any custody or parenting time proceeding involving unmarried parents, the court

1.19 shall consider section 518.175 and evaluate all relevant factors in section 518.17, subdivision

1.20 1, to determine the best interests of the child.

1.21 (b) The fact that the parents of the child are not or were never married to each other shall

1.22 not be determinative of the custody and parenting time of the child.

1.23 (c) A person may seek custody of a child by filing a petition or motion pursuant to section

1.24 518.156.

1.25 (d) Section 518.619 applies to this section.

2.1 Sec. 2. [518.0011] PUBLIC POLICY STATEMENT.

2.2 The public policy of this state is to:

2.3 (1) ensure that each child has frequent and substantial contact with the child's parents,
2.4 as long as the child's parents have shown the ability to act in the best interests of the child;

2.5 (2) ensure that parents and caregivers provide a safe and nurturing environment for each
2.6 child; and

2.7 (3) encourage parents to share the rights and duties of raising their child.

2.8 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 518.131, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

2.9 Subdivision 1. **Permissible orders.** In a proceeding brought for custody, dissolution,
2.10 or legal separation, or for disposition of property, maintenance, or child support following
2.11 the dissolution of a marriage, either party may, by motion, request from the court and the
2.12 court may grant a temporary order pending the final disposition of the proceeding to or for:

2.13 (a) Temporary custody and parenting time regarding the minor children of the parties.
2.14 In addition to the requirements under section 518.17, subdivision 1, the court must consider
2.15 the child's parenting time with each parent before the pending action commenced. If the
2.16 child's access to a parent was limited or restricted before the action commenced, the court
2.17 must determine the child's custody and parenting time in a manner that supports the child's
2.18 opportunity to develop a relationship with both parents in accordance with sections 518.17
2.19 and 518.175;

2.20 (b) Temporary maintenance of either spouse;

2.21 (c) Temporary child support for the children of the parties;

2.22 (d) Temporary costs and reasonable attorney fees;

2.23 (e) Award the temporary use and possession, exclusive or otherwise, of the family home,
2.24 furniture, household goods, automobiles, and other property of the parties;

2.25 (f) Restrain one or both parties from transferring, encumbering, concealing, or disposing
2.26 of property except in the usual course of business or for the necessities of life, and to account
2.27 to the court for all such transfers, encumbrances, dispositions, and expenditures made after
2.28 the order is served or communicated to the party restrained in open court;

2.29 (g) Restrain one or both parties from harassing, vilifying, mistreating, molesting,
2.30 disturbing the peace, or restraining the liberty of the other party or the children of the parties;

3.1 (h) Restrain one or both parties from removing any minor child of the parties from the
3.2 jurisdiction of the court;

3.3 (i) Exclude a party from the family home of the parties or from the home of the other
3.4 party; and

3.5 (j) Require one or both of the parties to perform or to not perform such additional acts
3.6 as will facilitate the just and speedy disposition of the proceeding, or will protect the parties
3.7 or their children from physical or emotional harm.

3.8 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 518.131, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

3.9 Subd. 11. ~~Temporary support and maintenance~~ Cases given priority for temporary
3.10 relief. Temporary support and maintenance may be ordered during the time a parenting
3.11 plan is being developed under section 518.1705. (a) While the proceeding is pending, the
3.12 court must give priority to scheduling and holding an expedited hearing for temporary relief
3.13 when a party credibly alleges that:

3.14 (1) the party has been denied parenting time with a child for 14 consecutive days or
3.15 more; or

3.16 (2) the party has been unreasonably denied access to necessary financial resources or
3.17 support during a pending marital dissolution.

3.18 (b) A court must hold a priority hearing under this subdivision within 30 days of the
3.19 party's request.

3.20 (c) A court must consider credible allegations of domestic abuse, substance abuse,
3.21 maltreatment findings, or neglect as a reasonable basis for a party who has denied parenting
3.22 time to the other party.

3.23 (d) If temporary parenting time is ordered, the court may also order temporary child
3.24 support if requested by the other party.

3.25 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 518.14, is amended to read:

3.26 **518.14 COSTS AND DISBURSEMENTS; ATTORNEY FEES; COLLECTION**
3.27 **COSTS.**

3.28 Subdivision 1. **General.** Except as provided in section 518A.735, in a proceeding under
3.29 this chapter or chapter 518A, the court shall award attorney fees, costs, and disbursements
3.30 in an amount necessary to enable a party to carry on or contest the proceeding, provided it
3.31 finds:

4.1 (1) that the fees are necessary for the good faith assertion of the party's rights in the
4.2 proceeding and will not contribute unnecessarily to the length and expense of the proceeding;

4.3 (2) that the party from whom fees, costs, and disbursements are sought has the means
4.4 to pay them; and

4.5 (3) that the party to whom fees, costs, and disbursements are awarded does not have the
4.6 means to pay them.

4.7 Subd. 1a. Other award. ~~Nothing in this section or section 518A.735 precludes~~ The
4.8 court ~~from awarding~~ may award, in its discretion, additional fees, costs, and disbursements
4.9 against a party who unreasonably contributes to the length or expense of the proceeding or
4.10 whose unreasonable failure to comply with an order or decree causes the other party to seek
4.11 enforcement or other relief, including the reimbursement of fees and costs incurred before
4.12 filing a motion. In determining whether to award fees, the court must consider the
4.13 circumstances and any other factors that contributed to the length or expense of the
4.14 proceeding. Fees, costs, and disbursements provided for in this section and section 518A.735
4.15 may be awarded at any point in the proceeding, including a modification proceeding under
4.16 sections 518.18 and 518A.39. The court may adjudge costs and disbursements against either
4.17 party. The court may authorize the collection of money awarded by execution, or out of
4.18 property sequestered, or in any other manner within the power of the court. An award of
4.19 attorney's fees made by the court during the pendency of the proceeding or in the final
4.20 judgment survives the proceeding and if not paid by the party directed to pay the same may
4.21 be enforced as above provided or by a separate civil action brought in the attorney's own
4.22 name. If the proceeding is dismissed or abandoned prior to determination and award of
4.23 attorney's fees, the court may nevertheless award attorney's fees upon the attorney's motion.
4.24 The award shall also survive the proceeding and may be enforced in the same manner as
4.25 last above provided.

4.26 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 518.17, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

4.27 Subdivision 1. **Best interests of the child.** (a) In evaluating the best interests of the child
4.28 for purposes of determining issues of custody and parenting time, the court must consider
4.29 and evaluate all relevant factors, including:

4.30 (1) a child's physical, emotional, cultural, spiritual, and other needs, and the effect of
4.31 the proposed arrangements on the child's needs and development;

5.1 (2) any special medical, mental health, developmental disability, or educational needs
5.2 that the child may have that may require special parenting arrangements or access to
5.3 recommended services;

5.4 (3) the reasonable preference of the child, if the court deems the child to be of sufficient
5.5 ability, age, and maturity to express an independent, reliable preference;

5.6 (4) whether domestic abuse, as defined in section 518B.01, has occurred in the parents'
5.7 or either parent's household or relationship; the nature and context of the domestic abuse;
5.8 and the implications of the domestic abuse for parenting and for the child's safety, well-being,
5.9 and developmental needs;

5.10 (5) any physical, mental, or chemical health issue of a parent that affects the child's
5.11 safety or developmental needs;

5.12 (6) the history and nature of each parent's participation in providing care for the child;

5.13 (7) the willingness and ability of each parent to provide ongoing care for the child; to
5.14 meet the child's ongoing developmental, emotional, spiritual, and cultural needs; and to
5.15 maintain consistency and follow through with parenting time;

5.16 (8) the effect on the child's well-being and development of changes to home, school,
5.17 and community;

5.18 (9) the effect of the proposed arrangements on the ongoing relationships between the
5.19 child and each parent, siblings, and other significant persons in the child's life;

5.20 (10) the benefit to the child in maximizing parenting time with both parents and the
5.21 detriment to the child in limiting parenting time with either parent;

5.22 (11) except in cases in which domestic abuse as described in clause (4) has occurred,
5.23 the disposition of each parent to support the child's relationship with the other parent and
5.24 to encourage and permit frequent and continuing contact between the child and the other
5.25 parent; and

5.26 (12) the willingness and ability of parents to cooperate in the rearing of their child; to
5.27 maximize sharing information and minimize exposure of the child to parental conflict; and
5.28 to utilize methods for resolving disputes regarding any major decision concerning the life
5.29 of the child.

5.30 (b) Clauses (1) to (9) govern the application of the best interests of the child factors by
5.31 the court:

6.1 (1) The court must make detailed findings on each of the factors in paragraph (a) based
6.2 on the evidence presented and explain how each factor led to its conclusions and to the
6.3 determination of custody and parenting time. The court may not use one factor to the
6.4 exclusion of all others, and the court shall consider that the factors may be interrelated.

6.5 (2) The court shall consider that it is in the best interests of the child to promote the
6.6 child's healthy growth and development through safe, stable, nurturing relationships between
6.7 a child and both parents. In determining custody, the court must consider the best interests
6.8 of the child and must not prefer one parent over the other solely on the basis of the gender
6.9 of the parent.

6.10 (3) The court shall consider both parents as having the capacity to develop and sustain
6.11 nurturing relationships with their children unless there are substantial reasons to believe
6.12 otherwise. In assessing whether parents are capable of sustaining nurturing relationships
6.13 with their children, the court shall recognize that there are many ways that parents can
6.14 respond to a child's needs with sensitivity and provide the child love and guidance, and
6.15 these may differ between parents and among cultures.

6.16 (4) The court shall not consider conduct of a party that does not affect the party's
6.17 relationship with the child.

6.18 (5) Disability alone, as defined in section 363A.03, of a proposed custodian or the child
6.19 shall not be determinative of the custody of the child.

6.20 (6) The court shall consider evidence of a violation of section 609.507 in determining
6.21 the best interests of the child.

6.22 (7) There is no presumption for or against joint physical custody, except as provided in
6.23 clause (9).

6.24 (8) Joint physical custody does not require an absolutely equal division of time.

6.25 (9) The court shall use a rebuttable presumption that upon request of either or both
6.26 parties, joint legal custody is in the best interests of the child. However, the court shall use
6.27 a rebuttable presumption that joint legal custody or joint physical custody is not in the best
6.28 interests of the child if domestic abuse, as defined in section 518B.01, has occurred between
6.29 the parents. In determining whether the presumption is rebutted, the court shall consider
6.30 the nature and context of the domestic abuse and the implications of the domestic abuse for
6.31 parenting and for the child's safety, well-being, and developmental needs. Disagreement
6.32 alone over whether to grant sole or joint custody does not constitute an inability of parents
6.33 to cooperate in the rearing of their children as referenced in paragraph (a), clause (12).

7.1 (c) In a proceeding involving the custodial responsibility of a service member's child, a
7.2 court may not consider only a parent's past deployment or possible future deployment in
7.3 determining the best interests of the child. For purposes of this paragraph, "custodial
7.4 responsibility" has the meaning given in section 518E.102, paragraph (f).

7.5 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 518.17, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

7.6 Subd. 3. **Custody order.** (a) Upon adjudging the nullity of a marriage, or in a dissolution
7.7 or separation proceeding, or in a child custody proceeding, the court shall make such further
7.8 order as it deems just and proper concerning:

7.9 (1) the legal custody of the minor children of the parties ~~which~~ that shall be sole or joint;

7.10 (2) their physical custody, parenting time, and residence; and

7.11 (3) their support. ~~In determining custody, the court shall consider the best interests of~~
7.12 ~~each child and shall not prefer one parent over the other solely on the basis of the sex of the~~
7.13 ~~parent.~~

7.14 (b) The court shall grant the rights listed in subdivision 3a to each of the parties, regardless
7.15 of custodial designation, unless specific findings are made under section 518.68, subdivision
7.16 1. The court shall include in the custody order the notice under subdivision 3a.

7.17 (c) The court may waive any of the rights under this section if it finds it is necessary to
7.18 protect the welfare of a party or child.

7.19 (d) If a court order or law prohibits contact by a party, the notifications and information
7.20 required to be sent under subdivision 3a, clauses (1), (2), (3), (5), and (6), shall not be made
7.21 by direct communication of the parties. Third-party communication shall be limited to the
7.22 specific purposes delineated in this subdivision or subdivision 3a. Nothing in this subdivision
7.23 or subdivision 3a shall modify, suspend, revoke, or terminate a court order or law that
7.24 prohibits contact by a party.

7.25 (e) If one of the parties is a program participant under chapter 5B, the other party shall
7.26 send all information and notifications required under subdivision 3a, clauses (1), (2), (3),
7.27 (5), and (6), to the participant's designated address. The program participant is exempted
7.28 from the requirements of subdivision 3a.

7.29 (f) Failure to notify or inform a party of rights under subdivision 3a does not form a
7.30 basis for modification under section 518.18, paragraph (d), clause (iv), unless other grounds
7.31 are alleged which would support a modification.

8.1 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 518.175, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

8.2 Subdivision 1. **General.** (a) In all proceedings for dissolution or legal separation,
8.3 subsequent to the commencement of the proceeding and continuing thereafter during the
8.4 minority of the child, the court shall, upon the request of either parent, grant such parenting
8.5 time on behalf of the child and a parent as will enable the child and the parent to maintain
8.6 a child to parent relationship that will be in the best interests of the child. The court, when
8.7 issuing a parenting time order, may reserve a determination as to the future establishment
8.8 or expansion of a parent's parenting time. In that event, the best interest standard set forth
8.9 in subdivision 5, paragraph (a), shall be applied to a subsequent motion to establish or
8.10 expand parenting time.

8.11 (b) If the court finds, after a hearing, that parenting time with a parent is likely to endanger
8.12 the child's physical, mental, or emotional health or safety or impair the child's emotional
8.13 development, the court shall restrict parenting time with that parent as to time, place, duration,
8.14 or supervision and may deny parenting time entirely, as the circumstances warrant. The
8.15 court shall consider the age of the child and the child's relationship with the parent prior to
8.16 the commencement of the proceeding.

8.17 (c) A parent's failure to pay support because of the parent's inability to do so shall not
8.18 be sufficient cause for denial of parenting time.

8.19 (d) The court may provide that a law enforcement officer or other appropriate person
8.20 will accompany a party seeking to enforce or comply with parenting time.

8.21 (e) Upon request of either party, to the extent practicable an order for parenting time
8.22 must include a specific schedule for regular parenting time, including the frequency and
8.23 duration of ~~visitation~~ parenting time and ~~visitation~~ parenting time during holidays ~~and~~,
8.24 vacations, and school breaks unless parenting time is restricted, denied, or reserved.

8.25 (f) The court administrator shall provide a form for a pro se motion regarding parenting
8.26 time disputes, which includes provisions for indicating the relief requested, an affidavit in
8.27 which the party may state the facts of the dispute, and a brief description of the parenting
8.28 time expeditor process under section 518.1751. The form may not include a request for a
8.29 change of custody. The court shall provide instructions on serving and filing the motion.

8.30 (g) In the absence of other evidence, there is a rebuttable presumption that a ~~parent is~~
8.31 ~~entitled to~~ child must receive a minimum of at least 25 percent of the parenting time ~~for the~~
8.32 ~~child~~ with each parent. For purposes of this paragraph, the percentage of parenting time
8.33 may be determined by calculating the number of overnights that a child spends with a parent
8.34 or by using a method other than overnights if the parent has significant time periods on

9.1 separate days when the child is in the parent's physical custody but does not stay overnight.
9.2 The court may consider the age of the child in determining whether a child is with a parent
9.3 for a significant period of time.

9.4 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 518.175, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

9.5 Subd. 6. **Remedies.** (a) Each party must follow a court's order for custody and parenting
9.6 time unless the parties have made another agreement in writing as defined by section 645.44,
9.7 subdivision 14.

9.8 (b) For the purposes of this subdivision, "court-ordered parenting time" means:

9.9 (1) parenting time that a court has ordered, regardless of whether the order is temporary
9.10 or permanent and whether family court or juvenile court has issued the order;

9.11 (2) an order by a parenting time consultant, parenting coordinator, special master, or
9.12 other court-appointed individual who is authorized to establish or modify parenting time;
9.13 or

9.14 (3) a binding agreement or decision under section 518.1751, subdivision 3.

9.15 ~~(a)~~ (c) The court may provide shall fully consider providing compensatory parenting
9.16 time when a parent has intentionally made a substantial amount of court-ordered parenting
9.17 time has been made unavailable to one the other parent unless providing the compensatory
9.18 parenting time is not consistent with the child's best interests. The court must consider all
9.19 relevant evidence to determine whether a parent has made a substantial amount of
9.20 court-ordered parenting time unavailable to the other parent.

9.21 ~~(b) The court shall provide for one of the remedies as provided under this subdivision~~
9.22 ~~for (1) a repeated and intentional denial of or interference with court-ordered parenting time,~~
9.23 ~~or (2) a repeated and intentional failure to comply with a binding agreement or decision~~
9.24 ~~under section 518.1751.~~

9.25 ~~(e)~~ (d) If the court finds that a person has been deprived of court-ordered parenting time
9.26 under paragraph (b), the court shall order the parent who has interfered to allow compensatory
9.27 parenting time to the other parent. When compensatory parenting time is awarded, additional
9.28 parenting time must be:

9.29 (1) at least of the same type and duration as the deprived parenting time and, at the
9.30 discretion of the court, may be in excess of or of a different type than the deprived parenting
9.31 time;

9.32 (2) taken within one year after the deprived parenting time; and

10.1 (3) at a time acceptable to the parent deprived of parenting time.

10.2 ~~(d)~~ (e) If the court finds that a party has repeatedly and intentionally denied or interfered
 10.3 with court-ordered parenting time ~~or failed to comply with a binding agreement or decision~~
 10.4 ~~under section 518.1751~~, the court ~~may~~ must, in addition to awarding compensatory parenting
 10.5 time ~~under paragraph (e)~~; require the party to reimburse the other party for costs incurred
 10.6 as a result of the party's denial of or interference with court-ordered parenting time and
 10.7 award reasonable attorney fees to the other party, provided that the court finds that the party
 10.8 from whom fees, costs, and disbursements are sought has the means to pay them. The court
 10.9 may:

10.10 (1) impose a civil penalty sanction of up to \$500 on against the party who denied or
 10.11 interfered with parenting time that is payable to the other party;

10.12 (2) modify legal and physical custody of the child by awarding custody of the child to
 10.13 the party whose parenting time was denied or interfered with, in accordance with the
 10.14 procedures under section 518.18; or

10.15 ~~(2) require the party to post a bond with the court for a specified period of time to secure~~
 10.16 ~~the party's compliance;~~

10.17 ~~(3) award reasonable attorney's fees and costs;~~

10.18 ~~(4) require the party who violated the parenting time order or binding agreement or~~
 10.19 ~~decision of the parenting time expeditor to reimburse the other party for costs incurred as~~
 10.20 ~~a result of the violation of the order or agreement or decision; or~~

10.21 ~~(5)~~ (3) award any other remedy that the court finds to be in the best interests of the
 10.22 children involved.

10.23 ~~A civil penalty imposed under this paragraph must be deposited in the county general~~
 10.24 ~~fund and must be used to fund the costs of a parenting time expeditor program in a county~~
 10.25 ~~with this program. In other counties, the civil penalty must be deposited in the state general~~
 10.26 ~~fund.~~

10.27 ~~(e)~~ (f) The court shall provide one or more of the remedies available in paragraph ~~(d)~~
 10.28 (e), clauses ~~(1) to (5)~~ and (2), if ~~one of the following occurs:~~

10.29 ~~(1)~~ the court finds that a party has repeatedly and intentionally denied or interfered with
 10.30 court-ordered parenting time after a previous finding that the party repeatedly and
 10.31 intentionally denied or interfered with court-ordered parenting time; ~~or.~~

11.1 ~~(2) the court finds that a party has failed to comply with a binding agreement or decision~~
11.2 ~~under section 518.1751 after a previous finding that the party failed to comply with a binding~~
11.3 ~~agreement or decision under section 518.1751.~~

11.4 ~~(f)~~ (g) If the court makes written findings that any denial of or interference with
11.5 court-ordered parenting time ~~or the failure to comply with a binding agreement or decision~~
11.6 ~~under section 518.1751~~ was necessary to protect a child's physical or emotional health, the
11.7 court is not required to comply with paragraphs ~~(b) to (e)~~ (d) to (f).

11.8 ~~(g)~~ (h) If the court finds that a party has been denied parenting time and has incurred
11.9 expenses in connection with the denied parenting time, the court may require the party who
11.10 denied parenting time to post a bond in favor of the other party in the amount of prepaid
11.11 expenses associated with upcoming planned parenting time.

11.12 ~~(h)~~ (i) Proof of an unwarranted denial of or interference with duly established parenting
11.13 time may constitute contempt of court and may be sufficient cause for reversal of custody.

11.14 ~~(i)~~ (j) All parenting time orders must include notice of the provisions of this subdivision.

11.15 (k) The required notice under paragraph (j) must be substantially as follows:

11.16 "NOTICE REGARDING COMPLIANCE WITH PARENTING TIME ORDER:

11.17 The parties are expected to fully comply with the court's order unless the parties mutually
11.18 agree otherwise in writing as defined by Minnesota Statutes, section 645.44, subdivision
11.19 14. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 518.175, subdivision 6, and Minnesota Statutes,
11.20 section 518.131, subdivision 11, the parties are hereby notified that:

11.21 (1) The court shall award compensatory parenting time to a parent who has been prevented
11.22 from exercising parenting time.

11.23 (2) Deprivation of parental rights is a FELONY crime pursuant to Minnesota Statutes,
11.24 section 609.375.

11.25 (3) If the court finds that one parent has repeatedly and intentionally denied or interfered
11.26 with another parent's parenting time, then the court shall award attorney fees to the parent
11.27 who has been denied parenting time and require the parent who has been denying or
11.28 interfering with parenting time to pay the other parent for costs incurred as a result of
11.29 enforcing the decision.

11.30 (4) If the court finds that one parent has repeatedly and intentionally denied or interfered
11.31 with parenting time, then the court may also:

11.32 (i) transfer custody of the child to the other parent;

12.1 (ii) impose a sanction of up to \$500 on the parent who repeatedly and intentionally
 12.2 denied or interfered with parenting time; or

12.3 (iii) award other relief as determined to be in the best interests of the children involved."

12.4 (l) An order issued under this section requiring reimbursement of costs or fees does not
 12.5 require a party to have direct contact with another party.

12.6 Sec. 10. EFFECTIVE DATE.

12.7 This article is effective August 1, 2024, and applies to proceedings commenced on or
 12.8 after that date.

12.9 ARTICLE 2

12.10 SPOUSAL MAINTENANCE

12.11 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 518.552, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

12.12 Subdivision 1. **Grounds.** In a proceeding for dissolution of marriage or legal separation,
 12.13 or in a proceeding for maintenance following dissolution of the marriage by a court which
 12.14 lacked personal jurisdiction over the absent spouse and which has since acquired jurisdiction,
 12.15 the court may grant a maintenance order for either spouse if it finds that the spouse seeking
 12.16 maintenance:

12.17 (a) lacks sufficient property, including marital property apportioned to the spouse, to
 12.18 provide for reasonable needs of the spouse considering the standard of living established
 12.19 during the marriage, especially, but not limited to, a period of training or education,~~or;~~

12.20 (b) is unable to provide adequate self-support, after considering the standard of living
 12.21 established during the marriage and all relevant circumstances,~~through appropriate~~
 12.22 ~~employment;~~ or

12.23 (c) is the custodian of a child whose condition or circumstances make it appropriate that
 12.24 the custodian not be required to seek employment outside the home.

12.25 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 518.552, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

12.26 Subd. 2. **Amount; duration of maintenance.** The maintenance order shall be in amounts
 12.27 and for periods of time, either ~~temporary~~ transitional or ~~permanent~~ indefinite, as the court
 12.28 deems just, without regard to marital misconduct, and after considering all relevant factors
 12.29 including:

13.1 (a) the financial resources of the party seeking maintenance, including marital property
 13.2 apportioned to the party, and the party's ability to meet needs independently, including the
 13.3 extent to which a provision for support of a child living with the party includes a sum for
 13.4 that party as custodian;

13.5 (b) the time necessary to acquire sufficient education or training to enable the party
 13.6 seeking maintenance to find appropriate employment, and the probability, given the party's
 13.7 age and skills, of completing education or training and becoming fully or partially
 13.8 self-supporting;

13.9 (c) the standard of living established during the marriage and the extent to which the
 13.10 standard of living was funded by debt;

13.11 (d) the duration of the marriage and, ~~in the case of a homemaker,~~ the earnings, seniority,
 13.12 benefits, and other employment opportunities forgone by the spouse seeking maintenance
 13.13 to support the other spouse or children and the length of absence from employment and the
 13.14 extent to which any education, skills, or experience have become outmoded and earning
 13.15 capacity has become permanently diminished;

13.16 ~~(e) the loss of earnings, seniority, retirement benefits, and other employment opportunities~~
 13.17 ~~forgone by the spouse seeking spousal maintenance;~~

13.18 ~~(f) (e) the age, and the physical and emotional condition,~~ mental, or chemical health of
 13.19 ~~the spouse seeking maintenance~~ both spouses;

13.20 ~~(g) (f) the ability of the spouse from whom maintenance is sought to meet needs while~~
 13.21 ~~meeting those of the spouse seeking maintenance; and~~

13.22 ~~(h) (g) the contribution of each party in the acquisition, preservation, depreciation, or~~
 13.23 ~~appreciation in the amount or value of the marital property, as well as the contribution of a~~
 13.24 ~~spouse as a homemaker or in furtherance of the other party's employment or business;~~ and

13.25 (h) the need and ability of each spouse to prepare for retirement and the anticipated time
 13.26 of retirement.

13.27 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 518.552, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

13.28 Subd. 3. **Permanency of award** Duration of maintenance. ~~Nothing in this section shall~~
 13.29 ~~be construed to favor a temporary award of maintenance over a permanent award, where~~
 13.30 ~~the factors under subdivision 2 justify a permanent award.~~

13.31 ~~Where there is some uncertainty as to the necessity of a permanent award, the court shall~~
 13.32 ~~order a permanent award leaving its order open for later modification.~~ (a) A maintenance

14.1 award may be transitional or indefinite. An award of temporary maintenance issued before
14.2 August 1, 2024, is deemed transitional maintenance. An award of permanent maintenance
14.3 issued before August 1, 2024, is deemed indefinite maintenance. Maintenance awarded
14.4 during the pendency of an initial proceeding for dissolution or legal separation pursuant to
14.5 section 518.131 is deemed temporary maintenance.

14.6 (b) For purposes of this subdivision, "length of the marriage" means the period from the
14.7 date of the marriage until the date of the commencement of the action.

14.8 (c) The court must determine the duration of maintenance based on the length of the
14.9 marriage as follows:

14.10 (1) when the length of the marriage is less than five years, it is rebuttably presumed that
14.11 no maintenance should be awarded;

14.12 (2) when the length of the marriage is at least five years and less than 20 years, it is
14.13 rebuttably presumed that transitional maintenance should be awarded with a duration of no
14.14 longer than one-half the length of the marriage if the factors set forth in subdivision 1 support
14.15 an award of maintenance; and

14.16 (3) when the length of the marriage is 20 years or more, it is rebuttably presumed that
14.17 indefinite maintenance should be awarded if the factors set forth in subdivision 1 support
14.18 an award of maintenance.

14.19 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 518.552, is amended by adding a subdivision to
14.20 read:

14.21 Subd. 5a. **Maintenance on death or remarriage.** Unless otherwise agreed in writing
14.22 or expressly provided in the decree, the obligation to pay future maintenance is terminated
14.23 upon the death of either party or the remarriage of the party receiving maintenance.

14.24 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 518.552, is amended by adding a subdivision to
14.25 read:

14.26 Subd. 5b. **Modification.** (a) Upon the motion of either of the parties, the court may
14.27 modify the amount and duration of maintenance and may issue an order that the court might
14.28 have issued in the original proceeding, except as otherwise provided in this subdivision.

14.29 (b) The terms of a maintenance order may be modified upon a showing of one or more
14.30 of the following circumstances that make the terms of the existing order unreasonable and
14.31 unfair:

15.1 (1) substantially increased or decreased gross income of an obligor or obligee;

15.2 (2) substantially increased or decreased need of an obligor or obligee; or

15.3 (3) substantial changes in the federal or state tax laws that affect spousal maintenance.

15.4 (c) Upon a motion to modify maintenance, including a motion to extend the duration of
15.5 a maintenance award, the court shall apply, in addition to all other relevant factors, the
15.6 factors for an award of maintenance under subdivisions 1 to 3 that exist at the time of the
15.7 motion.

15.8 (d) Unless the court adopts an alternative effective date under paragraph (f), a
15.9 modification of maintenance, including interest that accrued pursuant to section 548.091,
15.10 may be made retroactive:

15.11 (1) for any period during which the petitioning party has a motion for modification that
15.12 is pending;

15.13 (2) from the date that the notice of the motion to modify was served on the responding
15.14 party;

15.15 (3) from the date that the notice of the motion to modify was served on the public
15.16 authority if public assistance is being received; or

15.17 (4) from the date that the notice of the motion to modify was served on the county
15.18 attorney if the county attorney is the attorney of record.

15.19 (e) The court need not hold an evidentiary hearing on a motion to modify maintenance.

15.20 (f) The court may select an alternative effective date for a maintenance order if the parties
15.21 enter into a binding agreement for an alternative effective date. The court's adoption of an
15.22 alternative effective date under this paragraph must not be considered a retroactive
15.23 modification of maintenance.

15.24 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 518.552, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

15.25 Subd. 6. **Cohabitation.** (a) Spousal maintenance may be modified pursuant to ~~section~~
15.26 ~~518A.39, subdivision 2,~~ subdivision 5b based on the cohabitation by the maintenance obligee
15.27 with another adult following dissolution of the marriage. The modification may consist of
15.28 a reduction, suspension, reservation, or termination of maintenance. In determining if
15.29 maintenance should be modified due to cohabitation, the court shall consider:

15.30 (1) whether the obligee would marry the cohabitant but for the maintenance award;

15.31 (2) the economic benefit the obligee derives from the cohabitation;

16.1 (3) the length of the cohabitation and the likely future duration of the cohabitation; and

16.2 (4) the economic impact on the obligee if maintenance is modified and the cohabitation
16.3 ends.

16.4 (b) The court must not modify a maintenance award based solely on cohabitation if a
16.5 marriage between the obligee and the cohabitant would be prohibited under section 517.03,
16.6 subdivision 1, clause (2) or (3). A modification under this subdivision must be precluded
16.7 or limited to the extent the parties have entered into a private agreement under subdivision
16.8 5.

16.9 (c) A motion to modify a spousal maintenance award on the basis of cohabitation may
16.10 not be brought within one year of the date of entry of the decree of dissolution or legal
16.11 separation that orders spousal maintenance, unless the parties have agreed in writing that a
16.12 motion may be brought or the court finds that failing to allow the motion to proceed would
16.13 create an extreme hardship for one of the parties.

16.14 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 518.552, is amended by adding a subdivision to
16.15 read:

16.16 Subd. 7. **Retirement.** (a) If a party retires, spousal maintenance may be modified. The
16.17 modification of maintenance may consist of a reduction, suspension, reservation, or
16.18 termination of maintenance.

16.19 (b) In determining if maintenance should be modified due to a party's retirement, the
16.20 court shall consider:

16.21 (1) whether the retirement is in good faith or is an unjustifiable self-limitation of income;

16.22 (2) whether the party has attained the age to receive the party's full retirement benefits
16.23 under section 216 of the Social Security Act, United States Code, title 42, section 416, or
16.24 the customary age for retirement in the party's occupation;

16.25 (3) whether a party has reasonably and prudently managed the party's assets since the
16.26 dissolution of the marriage; and

16.27 (4) the financial resources available to both parties.

16.28 (c) It is presumed that when a party has attained the age to receive the party's full
16.29 retirement benefits under section 216 of the Social Security Act, United States Code, title
16.30 42, section 416, or the customary age for retirement in the party's occupation, the party will
16.31 use both income and assets to meet the party's needs.

17.1 (d) A party must not be presumed to have retired in bad faith or to have unjustifiably
17.2 self-limited the party's income in the event that the party's retirement is occurring on or after
17.3 the date the party attains the age to receive full retirement benefits under section 216 of the
17.4 Social Security Act, United States Code, title 42, section 416, or the customary age for
17.5 retirement in the party's occupation.

17.6 (e) A motion to modify maintenance due to retirement may be brought before a party
17.7 actually retires provided that the moving party specifies the date by which the party's
17.8 retirement will occur. The court may then make the modification effective as of the actual
17.9 date of retirement.

17.10 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 518.552, is amended by adding a subdivision to
17.11 read:

17.12 Subd. 8. **Form.** The state court administrator's office shall prepare and make available
17.13 to court administrators, obligors, and persons to whom spousal maintenance is owed a form
17.14 to be submitted in support of a motion for a modification of an order for maintenance or
17.15 for contempt of court.

17.16 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 518A.39, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

17.17 Subdivision 1. **Authority.** After an order under this chapter or chapter 518 for
17.18 ~~maintenance or support money, temporary or permanent~~ child support, or for the appointment
17.19 of trustees to receive property awarded as ~~maintenance or support money~~, the court may
17.20 from time to time, on motion of either of the parties, a copy of which is served on the public
17.21 authority responsible for child support enforcement if payments are made through it, or on
17.22 motion of the public authority responsible for support enforcement, modify the order
17.23 respecting the amount of ~~maintenance or support money~~ or medical support, and the payment
17.24 of it, and also respecting the appropriation and payment of the principal and income of
17.25 property held in trust, and may make an order respecting these matters which it might have
17.26 made in the original proceeding, except as herein otherwise provided. A party or the public
17.27 authority also may bring a motion for contempt of court if the obligor is in arrears in support
17.28 or maintenance payments.

17.29 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 518A.39, subdivision 2, is amended
17.30 to read:

17.31 Subd. 2. **Modification.** (a) The terms of an order respecting ~~maintenance or~~ child support
17.32 may be modified upon a showing of one or more of the following, any of which makes the

18.1 terms unreasonable and unfair: (1) substantially increased or decreased gross income of an
18.2 obligor or obligee; (2) substantially increased or decreased need of an obligor or obligee or
18.3 the child or children that are the subject of these proceedings; (3) receipt of assistance under
18.4 the AFDC program formerly codified under sections 256.72 to 256.87 or 256B.01 to 256B.39,
18.5 or chapter 256J or 256K; (4) a change in the cost of living for either party as measured by
18.6 the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics; (5) extraordinary medical expenses of the child not
18.7 provided for under section 518A.41; (6) a change in the availability of appropriate health
18.8 care coverage or a substantial increase or decrease in health care coverage costs; (7) the
18.9 addition of work-related or education-related child care expenses of the obligee or a
18.10 substantial increase or decrease in existing work-related or education-related child care
18.11 expenses; or (8) upon the emancipation of the child, as provided in subdivision 5.

18.12 (b) It is presumed that there has been a substantial change in circumstances under
18.13 paragraph (a) and the terms of a current support order shall be rebuttably presumed to be
18.14 unreasonable and unfair if:

18.15 (1) the application of the child support guidelines in section 518A.35, to the current
18.16 circumstances of the parties results in a calculated court order that is at least 20 percent and
18.17 at least \$75 per month higher or lower than the current support order or, if the current support
18.18 order is less than \$75, it results in a calculated court order that is at least 20 percent per
18.19 month higher or lower;

18.20 (2) the medical support provisions of the order established under section 518A.41 are
18.21 not enforceable by the public authority or the obligee;

18.22 (3) health coverage ordered under section 518A.41 is not available to the child for whom
18.23 the order is established by the parent ordered to provide;

18.24 (4) the existing support obligation is in the form of a statement of percentage and not a
18.25 specific dollar amount;

18.26 (5) the gross income of an obligor or obligee has decreased by at least 20 percent through
18.27 no fault or choice of the party; or

18.28 (6) a deviation was granted based on the factor in section 518A.43, subdivision 1, clause
18.29 (4), and the child no longer resides in a foreign country or the factor is otherwise no longer
18.30 applicable.

18.31 (c) A child support order is not presumptively modifiable solely because an obligor or
18.32 obligee becomes responsible for the support of an additional nonjoint child, which is born

19.1 after an existing order. Section 518A.33 shall be considered if other grounds are alleged
19.2 which allow a modification of support.

19.3 (d) If child support was established by applying a parenting expense adjustment or
19.4 presumed equal parenting time calculation under previously existing child support guidelines
19.5 and there is no parenting plan or order from which overnights or overnight equivalents can
19.6 be determined, there is a rebuttable presumption that the established adjustment or calculation
19.7 will continue after modification so long as the modification is not based on a change in
19.8 parenting time. In determining an obligation under previously existing child support
19.9 guidelines, it is presumed that the court shall:

19.10 (1) if a 12 percent parenting expense adjustment was applied, multiply the obligor's
19.11 share of the combined basic support obligation calculated under section 518A.34, paragraph
19.12 (b), clause (5), by 0.88; or

19.13 (2) if the parenting time was presumed equal but the parents' parental incomes for
19.14 determining child support were not equal:

19.15 (i) multiply the combined basic support obligation under section 518A.34, paragraph
19.16 (b), clause (5), by 0.75;

19.17 (ii) prorate the amount under item (i) between the parents based on each parent's
19.18 proportionate share of the combined PICS; and

19.19 (iii) subtract the lower amount from the higher amount.

19.20 (e) ~~On a motion for modification of maintenance, including a motion for the extension~~
19.21 ~~of the duration of a maintenance award, the court shall apply, in addition to all other relevant~~
19.22 ~~factors, the factors for an award of maintenance under section 518.552 that exist at the time~~
19.23 ~~of the motion.~~ On a motion for modification of support, the court:

19.24 (1) shall apply section 518A.35, and shall not consider the financial circumstances of
19.25 each party's spouse, if any; and

19.26 (2) shall not consider compensation received by a party for employment in excess of a
19.27 40-hour work week, provided that the party demonstrates, and the court finds, that:

19.28 (i) the excess employment began after entry of the existing support order;

19.29 (ii) the excess employment is voluntary and not a condition of employment;

19.30 (iii) the excess employment is in the nature of additional, part-time employment, or
19.31 overtime employment compensable by the hour or fractions of an hour;

20.1 (iv) the party's compensation structure has not been changed for the purpose of affecting
20.2 a support ~~or maintenance~~ obligation;

20.3 (v) in the case of an obligor, current child support payments are at least equal to the
20.4 guidelines amount based on income not excluded under this clause; and

20.5 (vi) in the case of an obligor who is in arrears in child support payments to the obligee,
20.6 any net income from excess employment must be used to pay the arrearages until the
20.7 arrearages are paid in full.

20.8 (f) A modification of support ~~or maintenance~~, including interest that accrued pursuant
20.9 to section 548.091, may be made retroactive only with respect to any period during which
20.10 the petitioning party has pending a motion for modification but only from the date of service
20.11 of notice of the motion on the responding party and on the public authority if public assistance
20.12 is being furnished or the county attorney is the attorney of record, unless the court adopts
20.13 an alternative effective date under paragraph (l). The court's adoption of an alternative
20.14 effective date under paragraph (l) shall not be considered a retroactive modification of
20.15 ~~maintenance or~~ support.

20.16 (g) Except for an award of the right of occupancy of the homestead, provided in section
20.17 518.63, all divisions of real and personal property provided by section 518.58 shall be final,
20.18 and may be revoked or modified only where the court finds the existence of conditions that
20.19 justify reopening a judgment under the laws of this state, including motions under section
20.20 518.145, subdivision 2. The court may impose a lien or charge on the divided property at
20.21 any time while the property, or subsequently acquired property, is owned by the parties or
20.22 either of them, for the payment of maintenance or support money, or may sequester the
20.23 property as is provided by section 518A.71.

20.24 (h) The court need not hold an evidentiary hearing on a motion for modification of
20.25 ~~maintenance or~~ support.

20.26 (i) Sections 518.14 and 518A.735 shall govern the award of attorney fees for motions
20.27 brought under this subdivision.

20.28 (j) An enactment, amendment, or repeal of law constitutes a substantial change in the
20.29 circumstances for purposes of modifying a child support order when it meets the standards
20.30 for modification in this section.

20.31 (k) On the first modification following implementation of amended child support
20.32 guidelines, the modification of basic support may be limited if the amount of the full variance

21.1 would create hardship for either the obligor or the obligee. Hardship includes, but is not
21.2 limited to, eligibility for assistance under chapter 256J.

21.3 (l) The court may select an alternative effective date for a ~~maintenance or~~ support order
21.4 if the parties enter into a binding agreement for an alternative effective date.

21.5 Sec. 11. **REPEALER.**

21.6 Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 518A.39, subdivision 3, is repealed.

21.7 ARTICLE 3

21.8 ANTENUPTIAL AND POSTNUPTIAL AGREEMENTS

21.9 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 519.11, is amended to read:

21.10 **519.11 ANTENUPTIAL AND POSTNUPTIAL ~~CONTRACTS~~ AGREEMENTS.**

21.11 Subdivision 1. **Antenuptial ~~contract~~ agreement.** ~~A man and woman~~ (a) Two individuals
21.12 of legal age may enter into an antenuptial ~~contract or settlement~~ agreement prior to the
21.13 solemnization of marriage which shall be valid and enforceable if ~~(a) there is a full and fair~~
21.14 ~~disclosure of the earnings and property of each party, and (b) the parties have had an~~
21.15 ~~opportunity to consult with legal counsel of their own choice. An antenuptial contract or~~
21.16 ~~settlement~~ the agreement meets the procedural and substantive fairness requirements under
21.17 subdivisions 1b and 1c.

21.18 (b) An antenuptial agreement made in conformity with this section may:

21.19 (1) determine what rights each party has in the marital and nonmarital property, as those
21.20 terms are defined in section 518.003, subdivision 3b, upon a dissolution of marriage, or
21.21 legal separation ~~or after its termination by death and;~~

21.22 (2) provide for spousal maintenance, as defined in section 518.003, subdivision 3a;

21.23 (3) determine the rights that each party has in the estate of the other as otherwise conferred
21.24 upon them by chapter 524; and

21.25 (4) may bar each other of all rights in the respective estates not so secured to them by
21.26 their agreement. ~~This section shall not be construed to make invalid or unenforceable any~~
21.27 ~~antenuptial agreement or settlement made and executed in conformity with this section~~
21.28 ~~because the agreement or settlement covers or includes marital property, if the agreement~~
21.29 ~~or settlement would be valid and enforceable without regard to this section.~~

21.30 (c) The marriage itself is adequate consideration for an agreement made in conformity
21.31 with this section.

22.1 (d) An agreement duly acknowledged and attested is prima facie proof of the matters
22.2 acknowledged in the agreement.

22.3 (e) If an antenuptial agreement unambiguously permits severability, the court may sever
22.4 any unenforceable provision and enforce the remaining provisions of the agreement.

22.5 ~~Subd. 1a. **Postnuptial contract.** (a) Spouses who are legally married under the laws of~~
22.6 ~~this state may enter into a postnuptial contract or settlement which is valid and enforceable~~
22.7 ~~if it:~~

22.8 ~~(1) complies with the requirements for antenuptial contracts or settlements in this section~~
22.9 ~~and in the law of this state, including, but not limited to, the requirement that it be~~
22.10 ~~procedurally and substantively fair and equitable both at the time of its execution and at the~~
22.11 ~~time of its enforcement; and~~

22.12 ~~(2) complies with the requirements for postnuptial contracts or settlements in this section.~~

22.13 ~~(b) A postnuptial contract or settlement that conforms with this section may determine~~
22.14 ~~all matters that may be determined by an antenuptial contract or settlement under the law~~
22.15 ~~of this state, except that a postnuptial contract or settlement may not determine the rights~~
22.16 ~~of any child of the spouses to child support from either spouse or rights of child custody or~~
22.17 ~~parenting time.~~

22.18 ~~(c) A postnuptial contract or settlement is valid and enforceable only if at the time of its~~
22.19 ~~execution each spouse is represented by separate legal counsel.~~

22.20 ~~(d) A postnuptial contract or settlement is presumed to be unenforceable if either party~~
22.21 ~~commences an action for a legal separation or dissolution within two years of the date of~~
22.22 ~~its execution, unless the spouse seeking to enforce the postnuptial contract or settlement~~
22.23 ~~can establish that the postnuptial contract or settlement is fair and equitable.~~

22.24 ~~(e) Nothing in this section shall impair the validity or enforceability of a contract,~~
22.25 ~~agreement, or waiver which is entered into after marriage and which is described in chapter~~
22.26 ~~524, article 2, part 2, further, a conveyance permitted by section 500.19 is not a postnuptial~~
22.27 ~~contract or settlement under this section.~~

22.28 Subd. 1b. **Procedural fairness.** (a) For purposes of this subdivision, "full and fair
22.29 disclosure" means that each party has provided a reasonably accurate description of all
22.30 material facts of their income and good faith estimates of the value of their property and
22.31 discloses the basis for these disclosures. A party must not waive the full and fair disclosure
22.32 requirement under paragraph (b), clause (1).

22.33 (b) An antenuptial agreement is procedurally fair if:

23.1 (1) there is full and fair disclosure of the current income and property of each party;

23.2 (2) each party has had a meaningful opportunity to consult with independent legal counsel
23.3 of the party's choosing;

23.4 (3) the agreement is in writing, executed in the presence of two witnesses, and
23.5 acknowledged by the parties before a person authorized to administer an oath under the
23.6 laws of this state;

23.7 (4) the agreement is entered into voluntarily and free of duress; and

23.8 (5) the agreement is entered into and executed no less than seven days before the marriage.

23.9 (c) An agreement entered into and executed at least seven days before the date of marriage
23.10 is presumed enforceable and the burden of proof is on the party seeking to set aside the
23.11 agreement. An agreement that is entered into and executed less than seven days before the
23.12 marriage is not presumed enforceable, and the proponent of the agreement has the burden
23.13 of proof.

23.14 (d) A power of attorney does not satisfy the requirements of paragraph (b), clause (3).

23.15 Subd. 1c. **Substantive fairness.** (a) In determining if an agreement under this section
23.16 is substantively fair, the court shall consider whether all or part of the agreement is
23.17 substantively unfair as to be unconscionable to a party either by the agreement's terms or
23.18 as the result of drastically changed circumstances originally not foreseen when the agreement
23.19 was created, such that enforcement would no longer comport with the reasonable expectations
23.20 of the parties at the time that the parties executed the agreement.

23.21 (b) The agreement need not approximate a division of marital or nonmarital property,
23.22 or an award of spousal maintenance, consistent with statutory law regarding property division
23.23 or spousal maintenance. A deviation from statutory standards does not in itself make an
23.24 agreement unconscionable.

23.25 Subd. 1d. **Postnuptial agreement.** (a) Spouses who are legally married under the laws
23.26 of this state may enter into a postnuptial agreement, which is valid and enforceable if the
23.27 agreement:

23.28 (1) complies with the requirements for antenuptial agreements in this section and in the
23.29 laws of this state, including but not limited to the requirement that the agreement be
23.30 procedurally and substantively fair except that subdivision 1b, paragraph (b), clause (5),
23.31 does not apply; and

23.32 (2) complies with the requirements for postnuptial agreements in this section.

24.1 (b) A postnuptial agreement that conforms with this section may determine all matters
24.2 that may be determined by an antenuptial agreement under the law of this state.

24.3 (c) A postnuptial agreement is valid and enforceable only if at the time of its execution
24.4 each spouse is represented by separate legal counsel.

24.5 (d) A postnuptial agreement is presumed to be unenforceable if either party commences
24.6 an action for a legal separation or dissolution within two years of the date of the agreement's
24.7 execution, unless the spouse seeking to enforce the postnuptial agreement can establish that
24.8 the postnuptial agreement is fair and equitable.

24.9 (e) Nothing in this section impairs the validity or enforceability of a contract, an
24.10 agreement, or a waiver that is entered into after marriage and that is described in sections
24.11 524.2-201 to 524.2-215. Further, a conveyance permitted by section 500.19 is not a
24.12 postnuptial agreement under this section.

24.13 ~~Subd. 2. **Writing; execution.** Antenuptial or postnuptial contracts or settlements shall~~
24.14 ~~be in writing, executed in the presence of two witnesses and acknowledged by the parties,~~
24.15 ~~executing the same before any officer or person authorized to administer an oath under the~~
24.16 ~~laws of this state. An antenuptial contract must be entered into and executed prior to the~~
24.17 ~~day of solemnization of marriage. A power of attorney may not be used to accomplish the~~
24.18 ~~purposes of this section.~~

24.19 ~~Subd. 2a. **Amendment or revocation.** An antenuptial contract or settlement~~ agreement
24.20 ~~may be amended or revoked after the marriage of the parties only by a valid postnuptial~~
24.21 ~~contract or settlement which~~ agreement that ~~complies with this section and with the laws~~
24.22 ~~of this state. A postnuptial contract or settlement~~ agreement may be amended or revoked
24.23 ~~only by a later, valid postnuptial contract or settlement which~~ agreement that ~~complies with~~
24.24 ~~this section and with the laws of this state.~~

24.25 ~~Subd. 3. **Filing; recording.** An antenuptial or postnuptial contract or settlement which~~
24.26 ~~by its terms conveys or determines what rights each has in the other's real property and sets~~
24.27 ~~forth the legal description of the real estate granted or affected by the agreement may be~~
24.28 ~~filed or recorded in every county where any real estate so described is situated, in the office~~
24.29 ~~of the county recorder for the county or in any public office authorized to receive a deed,~~
24.30 ~~assignment or other instrument affecting the real estate, for filing or recording.~~

24.31 ~~Subd. 4. **Effect of recording.** Any antenuptial or postnuptial contract or settlement not~~
24.32 ~~recorded in the office of the county recorder or other public office authorized to receive the~~
24.33 ~~document, where the real property is located, shall be void as against any subsequent~~
24.34 ~~purchaser in good faith and for a valuable consideration of the same real property, or any~~

25.1 ~~part thereof, whose conveyance is first duly recorded, and as against any attachment levied~~
 25.2 ~~thereon or any judgment lawfully obtained at the suit of any party against the person in~~
 25.3 ~~whose name the title to the property appears of record prior to recording of the conveyance.~~

25.4 **Subd. 5. Evidence; burden of proof.** ~~An antenuptial or postnuptial contract or settlement~~
 25.5 ~~duly acknowledged and attested shall be prima facie proof of the matters acknowledged~~
 25.6 ~~therein and as to those matters, the burden of proof shall be and rest upon the person~~
 25.7 ~~contesting the same.~~

25.8 **Subd. 6. Effective date Application.** ~~This section shall apply~~ applies to all antenuptial
 25.9 ~~contracts and settlements executed on or after August 1, 1979, and shall apply to all~~
 25.10 ~~postnuptial contracts and settlements executed on or after August 1, 1994~~ agreements
 25.11 executed on or after August 1, 2024. An antenuptial agreement entered into before August
 25.12 1, 2024, shall not be invalidated based on the same sex of the parties to the agreement.

25.13 **Subd. 7. Effect of sections 519.01 to 519.101.** Nothing in sections 519.01 to 519.101,
 25.14 shall be construed to affect antenuptial or postnuptial ~~contracts or settlements~~ agreements.

25.15 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2024, and applies to agreements
 25.16 executed on or after that date.

25.17 **Sec. 2. REVISOR INSTRUCTION.**

25.18 The revisor of statutes shall change the terms "husband," "wife," "husband and wife,"
 25.19 and "husband or wife" to "spouse," "spouses," or a similar gender-neutral term wherever
 25.20 the terms appear in Minnesota Statutes, unless the context indicates that the previous term
 25.21 should remain. The revisor of statutes shall also make grammatical changes related to the
 25.22 changes in terms.

25.23 **ARTICLE 4**

25.24 **ASSISTED REPRODUCTION**

25.25 **Section 1. [257E.10] DEFINITIONS.**

25.26 **Subdivision 1. Definitions.** For purposes of this chapter, the following terms have the
 25.27 meanings given.

25.28 **Subd. 2. Assisted reproduction.** "Assisted reproduction" means a method of causing
 25.29 pregnancy other than sexual intercourse. The term includes:

25.30 (1) intrauterine, intracervical, or vaginal insemination;

25.31 (2) donation of gametes;

26.1 (3) donation of embryos;

26.2 (4) in vitro fertilization and transfer of embryos; and

26.3 (5) intracytoplasmic sperm injection.

26.4 Assisted reproduction does not include a pregnancy under a surrogacy agreement, the
26.5 pregnancy of a surrogate, the transfer of an embryo to a surrogate, or when a child is
26.6 conceived pursuant to a surrogacy agreement. For purposes of this subdivision, "surrogate"
26.7 means an individual who agrees to become pregnant but who does not intend to be legally
26.8 bound as a parent of the child.

26.9 Subd. 3. **Birth.** "Birth" includes fetal deaths reportable under section 144.222.

26.10 Subd. 4. **Determination of parentage.** "Determination of parentage" means the
26.11 establishment of a parent-child relationship by a judicial proceeding or signing of a valid
26.12 recognition of parentage under section 257.75.

26.13 Subd. 5. **Donor.** "Donor" means an individual who provides gametes intended for use
26.14 in assisted reproduction, whether or not for consideration. The term does not include a parent
26.15 or an intended parent.

26.16 Subd. 6. **Gamete.** "Gamete" means a sperm or an egg.

26.17 Subd. 7. **Genetic testing.** "Genetic testing" means an analysis of genetic markers to
26.18 identify or exclude a genetic relationship.

26.19 Subd. 8. **Intended parent.** "Intended parent" means an individual, married or unmarried,
26.20 who manifests an intent to be legally bound as a parent of a child conceived by assisted
26.21 reproduction.

26.22 Subd. 9. **Parent.** "Parent" means an individual who is the legal parent of a child under
26.23 the laws of the state.

26.24 Subd. 10. **Parentage; parent-child relationship.** "Parentage" or "parent-child
26.25 relationship" means the legal relationship between a child and a parent of the child.

26.26 Subd. 11. **Presumed parent.** "Presumed parent" means an individual who under sections
26.27 257.51 to 257.74 is presumed to be a parent of a child, unless the requirements of section
26.28 257.57, subdivision 2, are met; the presumption is overcome in a judicial proceeding; a
26.29 valid denial of parentage is made under this chapter; or a court adjudicates the individual
26.30 to be a parent.

26.31 Subd. 12. **Transfer.** "Transfer" means a procedure for assisted reproduction by which
26.32 an embryo or sperm is placed in the body of the individual who will give birth to the child.

27.1 Sec. 2. **[257E.15] ORDERS OF PARENTAGE.**

27.2 (a) If the court determines that an individual is a parent under this chapter, either because
27.3 the individual gave birth to the child or the individual is a consenting intended parent under
27.4 section 257E.23, the court shall adjudicate the individual to be a parent of the child.

27.5 (b) An individual who is or claims to be a parent under this section or the individual
27.6 who gave birth to the child may commence a proceeding before or after the birth of the
27.7 child in district court for an order or judgment:

27.8 (1) declaring that each intended parent is a parent of the child and ordering that parental
27.9 rights and duties vest immediately upon the birth of the child;

27.10 (2) designating the content of the birth record in accordance with applicable law and
27.11 directing the Office of Vital Records to designate each intended parent as a parent of the
27.12 child;

27.13 (3) to protect the privacy of the child and the parties, declaring that the court record is
27.14 not open to inspection; and

27.15 (4) for other relief that the court determines necessary and proper.

27.16 (c) The court may issue an order or a judgment under this section before the birth of the
27.17 child. The court shall stay enforcement of the order or judgment until the birth of the child.

27.18 (d) Neither this state nor the Office of Vital Records is a necessary party to a proceeding
27.19 under this section.

27.20 Sec. 3. **[257E.21] PARENTAL STATUS OF DONOR.**

27.21 A donor is not a parent of a child conceived by assisted reproduction.

27.22 Sec. 4. **[257E.22] PARENTAGE OF CHILD OF ASSISTED REPRODUCTION.**

27.23 An intended parent who consents under section 257E.23 to assisted reproduction by
27.24 another individual with the intent to be a parent of a child conceived by assisted reproduction
27.25 is a parent of the child.

27.26 Sec. 5. **[257E.23] CONSENT TO ASSISTED REPRODUCTION.**

27.27 (a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b), the consent described in section
27.28 257E.22 must be in a record signed by the individual giving birth to a child conceived by
27.29 assisted reproduction and an intended parent.

28.1 (b) Failure to consent in a record as required by paragraph (a), before, on, or after the
28.2 birth of the child does not preclude the court from finding consent to parentage if:

28.3 (1) the individual giving birth to a child or the intended parent proves by clear and
28.4 convincing evidence the existence of an express agreement entered into before conception
28.5 that the intended parent and the individual giving birth to the child intended that they both
28.6 would be parents of the child; or

28.7 (2) the individual giving birth to a child and the intended parent for the first two years
28.8 of the child's life, including any period of temporary absence, resided together in the same
28.9 household with the child and both openly held out the child as the intended parent's child,
28.10 unless the intended parent dies or becomes incapacitated before the child attains two years
28.11 of age or the child dies before the child attains two years of age, in which case the court
28.12 may find consent under this paragraph to parentage if a party proves by clear and convincing
28.13 evidence that the individual giving birth to the child and the intended parent intended to
28.14 reside together in the same household with the child and both intended that the intended
28.15 parent would openly hold out the child as the intended parent's child, but the intended parent
28.16 was prevented from carrying out that intent by death or incapacity.

28.17 **Sec. 6. [257E.24] SPOUSE'S DISPUTE OF PARENTAGE; LIMITATIONS.**

28.18 (a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b), an individual who, at the time of a
28.19 child's birth, is the spouse of the parent who gave birth to the child by assisted reproduction
28.20 may not challenge the individual's parentage of the child unless:

28.21 (1) not later than two years after the birth of the child, the spouse commences a proceeding
28.22 to adjudicate the spouse's parentage of the child; and

28.23 (2) the court finds that the spouse did not consent to the assisted reproduction before,
28.24 on, or after birth of the child, or withdrew consent under section 257E.26.

28.25 (b) A proceeding to adjudicate a spouse's parentage of a child born by assisted
28.26 reproduction may be commenced at any time if the court determines:

28.27 (1) the spouse neither provided a gamete for, nor consented to, the assisted reproduction;

28.28 (2) the spouse and the parent who gave birth to the child have not cohabited since the
28.29 probable time of assisted reproduction; and

28.30 (3) the spouse never openly held out the child as the spouse's child.

28.31 (c) This section applies to a spouse's dispute of parentage even if the spouse's marriage
28.32 is declared invalid after assisted reproduction occurs.

29.1 **Sec. 7. [257E.25] EFFECT OF DISSOLUTION.**

29.2 If a marriage of an individual who gives birth to a child conceived by assisted
29.3 reproduction is terminated through divorce or dissolution, subject to legal separation or
29.4 separate maintenance, declared invalid, or annulled before the transfer of gametes or embryos
29.5 to the individual giving birth to the child, a former spouse of the individual giving birth to
29.6 the child is not a parent of the child unless the former spouse consented in a record that the
29.7 former spouse would be a parent of the child if assisted reproduction were to occur after a
29.8 divorce, a dissolution, an annulment, a declaration of invalidity, a legal separation, or separate
29.9 maintenance, and the former spouse did not withdraw consent under section 257E.26.

29.10 **Sec. 8. [257E.26] WITHDRAWAL OF CONSENT.**

29.11 (a) An intended parent who consents under section 257E.23 to assisted reproduction
29.12 may withdraw consent any time before a transfer that results in a pregnancy, by giving
29.13 notice in a record of the withdrawal of consent to the individual who agreed to give birth
29.14 to a child conceived by assisted reproduction and to any clinic or health care provider
29.15 facilitating the assisted reproduction. Failure to give notice to the clinic or health care
29.16 provider does not affect a determination of parentage under this chapter.

29.17 (b) An individual who withdraws consent under paragraph (a) is not a parent of the child
29.18 under this chapter.

29.19 **Sec. 9. [257E.27] PARENTAL STATUS OF DECEASED INDIVIDUAL.**

29.20 (a) If an individual who intends to be a parent of a child conceived by assisted
29.21 reproduction dies during the period between the transfer of a gamete or embryo and the
29.22 birth of the child, the individual's death does not preclude the establishment of the individual's
29.23 parentage of the child if the individual otherwise would be a parent of the child under this
29.24 chapter.

29.25 (b) If an individual who consented in a record to assisted reproduction by an individual
29.26 who agreed to give birth to a child dies before a transfer of gametes or embryos, the deceased
29.27 individual is a parent of a child conceived by the assisted reproduction only if:

29.28 (1) either:

29.29 (i) the individual consented in a record that if assisted reproduction were to occur after
29.30 the death of the individual, the individual would be a parent of the child; or

29.31 (ii) the individual's intent to be a parent of a child conceived by assisted reproduction
29.32 after the individual's death is established by clear and convincing evidence; and

- 30.1 (2) either:
- 30.2 (i) the embryo is in utero not later than 36 months after the individual's death; or
- 30.3 (ii) the child is born not later than 45 months after the individual's death.
- 30.4 Sec. 10. **REPEALER.**
- 30.5 Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 257.56, is repealed.

257.56 ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION.

Subdivision 1. **Husband treated as biological father.** If, under the supervision of a licensed physician and with the consent of her husband, a wife is inseminated artificially with semen donated by a man not her husband, the husband is treated in law as if he were the biological father of a child thereby conceived. The husband's consent must be in writing and signed by him and his wife. The consent must be retained by the physician for at least four years after the confirmation of a pregnancy that occurs during the process of artificial insemination.

All papers and records pertaining to the insemination, whether part of the permanent record of a court or of a file held by the supervising physician or elsewhere, are subject to inspection only upon an order of the court for good cause shown.

Subd. 2. **Donor not treated as biological father.** The donor of semen provided to a licensed physician for use in artificial insemination of a married woman other than the donor's wife is treated in law as if he were not the biological father of a child thereby conceived.

518A.39 MODIFICATION OF ORDERS OR DECREES.

Subd. 3. **Maintenance on death or remarriage.** Unless otherwise agreed in writing or expressly provided in the decree, the obligation to pay future maintenance is terminated upon the death of either party or the remarriage of the party receiving maintenance.