HOUSE MESSAGE SUMMARY

[s0152.hms]

BILL: CS/SB 152

SPONSOR: Judiciary Committee and Senator Siplin

SUBJECT: Alimony

PREPARED BY: Senate Committee on Judiciary

DATE: May 4, 2005

I. Amendments Contained in Message:

House Amendment 1 – 823941 (body with title)

II. Summary of Amendments Contained in Message:

House Amendment 1 replaces the type of relationship to be considered by the court, in deciding whether to reduce or terminate alimony, from that of a "de facto marriage" between the obligee and a person of the opposite sex to that of a "supportive relationship" between the obligee and a live-in, non-relative.

This "strike-everything" amendment removes language that provided that the court may consider the duration and circumstances of a continuing, conjugal relationship, and adds new criteria, which is whether the obligee and the other person provided support for each other's children, regardless of whether legally obligated to do so.

This amendment provides that proof of a conjugal relationship is not required. In so doing, this amendment extends the court's authority to modify or terminate alimony to those situations in which the obligee is in a platonic, live-in relationship with another person, where there is evidence of a supportive relationship between the obligee and the other person.