

CHAPTER 10.

[H. B. 65.]

FAMILY DESERTION—PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS.

AN ACT relating to the domestic relations; and adding a new section to chapter 28, Laws of 1913, and to chapter 26.20 RCW; and declaring an emergency.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

SECTION 1. There is added to chapter 28, Laws of 1913, and to chapter 26.20 RCW a new section to read as follows: New section.

In any proceedings relating to nonsupport or family desertion the laws attaching a privilege against the disclosure of communications between husband and wife shall be inapplicable and both husband and wife in such proceedings shall be competent witnesses to testify to any relevant matter, including marriage and parentage. Nonsupport. Evidence—Spouse as witness.

SEC. 2. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately. Emergency.

Passed the House March 1, 1963.

Passed the Senate February 28, 1963.

Approved by the Governor March 4, 1963.