

# State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-THIRD SESSION  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1998

475B0422

## HOUSE BILL NO. 1252

Introduced by: Representatives Fitzgerald, Belatti, Brooks, Collier, Duenwald, Matthews, Pederson (Gordon), Van Gerpen, Wetz, and Wick and Senators Lange, Brown (Arnold), Staggers, and Vitter

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to provide for the insertion of certain language in marriage  
2 licenses.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 Section 1. That chapter 25-1 be amended by adding thereto a NEW SECTION to read as  
5 follows:

6 The application for a marriage license shall contain the following statement:

7 "The laws of this state affirm your right to enter into this marriage and at the same time to  
8 live within the marriage free from violence and abuse. Neither of you is the property of the other.  
9 Physical abuse, sexual abuse, battery, and assault of a spouse or other family member, as well  
10 as other provisions of the criminal laws of this state, are applicable to spouses and other family  
11 members and violations thereof are punishable by law."

12 The register of deeds or the register's agent shall draw the applicants' attention to their  
13 provision at the time that the marriage license is issued.