

**SENATE BILL REPORT**

**HB 1939**

**AS OF FEBRUARY 17, 1992**

**Brief Description:** Providing that either party to a marriage may take the surname of the other.

**SPONSORS:** Representatives Anderson, Miller, H. Sommers, Brough, Fraser and Brekke.

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON LAW & JUSTICE**

**Staff:** Susan Carlson (786-7418)

**Hearing Dates:** April 5, 1991; February 19, 1992

**BACKGROUND:**

Upon marriage, some women assume their husband's surname. No statute exists in the marriage provisions that specifically authorizes this practice. Apparently if a man desires to assume his wife's surname, he may not be allowed to change his voter's registration or driver's license to conform unless he obtains an order from a superior court authorizing the change.

**SUMMARY:**

Either party to a marriage may take the surname of the other party.

**Appropriation:** none

**Revenue:** none

**Fiscal Note:** none requested