

5163

Sponsor(s): Senator Talmadge

Brief Description: Providing for alternative dispute resolution.

SB 5163 - DIGEST

Authorizes the county district courts to allow mandatory arbitration of civil actions.

Provides that the arbitration shall employ the standards and procedures provided under general contractual law and applicable court rules.

Establishes immunities for arbitrators from civil actions except when the willful or wanton misconduct of the arbitrator is at issue.

Directs the department of community development to adopt rules of professional conduct for nonlawyer arbitrators, mediators, and conciliators.

Establishes procedures for the conduct of mediation proceedings.

Provides that, when an offender pleads guilty or is found guilty, the court shall provide an opportunity for the conduct of a victim-offender reconciliation program.

Repeals RCW 4.84.100.