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HOUSE BILL 2032

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State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Representatives Appelwick and R. Fisher; by request of Administrator for the Courts

Read first time 02/24/93. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to court commissioners in counties with a  
2 population of one million or more; amending RCW 26.12.050 and  
3 71.05.135; and declaring an emergency.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 26.12.050 and 1991 c 363 s 17 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, in each  
8 county (~~with a population of less than one million,~~) the superior  
9 court may appoint the following persons to assist the family court in  
10 disposing of its business:

11 (a) One or more attorneys to act as family court commissioners, and

12 (b) Such investigators, stenographers and clerks as the court shall  
13 find necessary to carry on the work of the family court.

14 (2) The county legislative authority must approve the creation of  
15 family court commissioner positions.

16 (3) The appointments provided for in this section shall be made by  
17 majority vote of the judges of the superior court of the county and may  
18 be made in addition to all other appointments of commissioners and  
19 other judicial attaches otherwise authorized by law. Family court

1 commissioners and investigators shall serve at the pleasure of the  
2 judges appointing them and shall receive such compensation as the  
3 county legislative authority shall determine. The appointments may be  
4 full or part-time positions. A person appointed as a family court  
5 commissioner may also be appointed to any other commissioner position  
6 authorized by law.

7 **Sec. 2.** RCW 71.05.135 and 1991 c 363 s 146 are each amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 In each county (~~(with a population of less than one million,~~) the  
10 superior court may appoint the following persons to assist the superior  
11 court in disposing of its business: PROVIDED, That such positions may  
12 not be created without prior consent of the county legislative  
13 authority:

14 (1) One or more attorneys to act as mental health commissioners;  
15 and

16 (2) Such investigators, stenographers, and clerks as the court  
17 shall find necessary to carry on the work of the mental health  
18 commissioners.

19 The appointments provided for in this section shall be made by a  
20 majority vote of the judges of the superior court of the county and may  
21 be in addition to all other appointments of commissioners and other  
22 judicial attaches otherwise authorized by law. Mental health  
23 commissioners and investigators shall serve at the pleasure of the  
24 judges appointing them and shall receive such compensation as the  
25 county legislative authority shall determine. The appointments may be  
26 full or part-time positions. A person appointed as a mental health  
27 commissioner may also be appointed to any other commissioner position  
28 authorized by law.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
30 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
31 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take  
32 effect immediately.

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