
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1826

State of Washington 56th Legislature 1999 Regular Session

By House Committee on Agriculture & Ecology (originally sponsored by Representatives Grant, Linville, Mastin and G. Chandler)

Read first time 03/02/1999.

1 AN ACT Relating to water masters; and amending RCW 90.03.060.

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

3 **Sec. 1.** RCW 90.03.060 and 1987 c 109 s 69 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section:

6 (a) Water masters shall be appointed by the department whenever it
7 shall find the interests of the state or of the water users to require
8 them(~~(-)~~); and

9 (b) The districts for or in which the water masters serve shall be
10 designated water master districts, which shall be fixed from time to
11 time by the department, as required, and they shall be subject to
12 revision as to boundaries or to complete abandonment as local
13 conditions may indicate to be expedient, the spirit of this provision
14 being that no district shall be created or continued where the need for
15 the same does not exist.

16 (2) The department shall appoint a water master for each watershed
17 management area for which a plan has been adopted by a planning unit
18 and by the counties with territory in the watershed management area

1 under RCW 90.82.130 and the plan contains a requirement or request that
2 a water master be appointed for the management area.

3 (3) Water masters shall be supervised by the department, shall be
4 compensated for services from funds of the department, and shall be
5 technically qualified to the extent of understanding the elementary
6 principals of hydraulics and irrigation, and of being able to make
7 water measurements in streams and in open and closed conduits of all
8 characters, by the usual methods employed for that purpose. Counties
9 and municipal and public corporations of the state are authorized to
10 contribute moneys to the department to be used as compensation to water
11 masters in carrying out their duties. All such moneys received by the
12 department shall be used exclusively for said purpose.

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