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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2799**

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**State of Washington**

**56th Legislature**

**2000 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Judiciary (originally sponsored by Representatives Lambert, Hurst, Kagi, Benson, Lovick and Pflug)

Read first time 02/03/2000. Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to granting state-wide warrant jurisdiction to  
2 courts of limited jurisdiction; amending RCW 3.66.010, 3.66.060,  
3 3.66.070, 3.46.030, 3.50.020, and 35.20.030; and creating a new  
4 section.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The administrator for the courts shall  
7 establish a pilot program for the efficient state-wide processing of  
8 warrants issued by courts of limited jurisdiction. The pilot program  
9 shall contain procedures and criteria for courts of limited  
10 jurisdiction to enter into agreements with other courts of limited  
11 jurisdiction throughout the state to process each other's warrants when  
12 the defendant is within the processing court's jurisdiction. The  
13 administrator for the courts shall establish a formula for allocating  
14 between the court processing the warrant and the court that issued the  
15 warrant any moneys collected and costs associated with the processing  
16 of warrants.

17 **Sec. 2.** RCW 3.66.010 and 1984 c 258 s 40 are each amended to read  
18 as follows:

1       (1) The justices of the peace elected in accordance with chapters  
2 3.30 through 3.74 RCW are authorized to hold court as judges of the  
3 district court for the trial of all actions enumerated in chapters 3.30  
4 through 3.74 RCW or assigned to the district court by law; to hear,  
5 try, and determine the same according to the law, and for that purpose  
6 where no special provision is otherwise made by law, such court shall  
7 be vested with all the necessary powers which are possessed by courts  
8 of record in this state; and all laws of a general nature shall apply  
9 to such district court as far as the same may be applicable and not  
10 inconsistent with the provisions of chapters 3.30 through 3.74 RCW.  
11 The district court shall, upon the demand of either party, impanel a  
12 jury to try any civil or criminal case in accordance with the  
13 provisions of chapter 12.12 RCW. No jury trial may be held in a  
14 proceeding involving a traffic infraction.

15       (2) A district court participating in the program established by  
16 the office of the administrator for the courts pursuant to section 1 of  
17 this act shall have jurisdiction to take recognizance, approve bail,  
18 and arraign defendants held within its jurisdiction on warrants issued  
19 by any other court of limited jurisdiction participating in the  
20 program.

21       **Sec. 3.** RCW 3.66.060 and 1984 c 258 s 44 are each amended to read  
22 as follows:

23       The district court shall have jurisdiction: (1) Concurrent with  
24 the superior court of all misdemeanors and gross misdemeanors committed  
25 in their respective counties and of all violations of city ordinances.  
26 It shall in no event impose a greater punishment than a fine of five  
27 thousand dollars, or imprisonment for one year in the county or city  
28 jail as the case may be, or both such fine and imprisonment, unless  
29 otherwise expressly provided by statute. It may suspend and revoke  
30 vehicle operators' licenses in the cases provided by law; (2) to sit as  
31 a committing magistrate and conduct preliminary hearings in cases  
32 provided by law; (3) concurrent with the superior court of a proceeding  
33 to keep the peace in their respective counties; (4) concurrent with the  
34 superior court of all violations under Title 75 RCW; ~~((and))~~ (5) to  
35 hear and determine traffic infractions under chapter 46.63 RCW; and (6)  
36 to take recognizance, approve bail, and arraign defendants held within  
37 its jurisdiction on warrants issued by other courts of limited

1 jurisdiction when those courts are participating in the program  
2 established under section 1 of this act.

3 **Sec. 4.** RCW 3.66.070 and 1991 c 290 s 2 are each amended to read  
4 as follows:

5 All criminal actions shall be brought in the district where the  
6 alleged violation occurred: PROVIDED, That (1) the prosecuting  
7 attorney may file felony cases in the district in which the county seat  
8 is located, (2) with the consent of the defendant criminal actions  
9 other than those arising out of violations of city ordinances may be  
10 brought in or transferred to the district in which the county seat is  
11 located, ~~((and))~~ (3) if the alleged violation relates to driving, or  
12 being in actual physical control of, a motor vehicle while under the  
13 influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug and the alleged violation  
14 occurred within a judicial district which has been designated an  
15 enhanced enforcement district under RCW 2.56.110, the charges may be  
16 filed in that district or in a district within the same county which is  
17 adjacent to the district in which the alleged violation occurred, and  
18 (4) a district court participating in the program established by the  
19 office of the administrator for the courts pursuant to section 1 of  
20 this act shall have jurisdiction to take recognizance, approve bail,  
21 and arraign defendants held within its jurisdiction on warrants issued  
22 by any other court of limited jurisdiction participating in the  
23 program.

24 **Sec. 5.** RCW 3.46.030 and 1985 c 303 s 13 are each amended to read  
25 as follows:

26 A municipal department shall have exclusive jurisdiction of matters  
27 arising from ordinances of the city, and no jurisdiction of other  
28 matters except as conferred by statute. A municipal department  
29 participating in the program established by the office of the  
30 administrator for the courts pursuant to section 1 of this act shall  
31 have jurisdiction to take recognizance, approve bail, and arraign  
32 defendants held within its jurisdiction on warrants issued by any court  
33 of limited jurisdiction participating in the program.

34 **Sec. 6.** RCW 3.50.020 and 1985 c 303 s 14 are each amended to read  
35 as follows:

1 The municipal court shall have exclusive original jurisdiction over  
2 traffic infractions arising under city ordinances and exclusive  
3 original criminal jurisdiction of all violations of city ordinances  
4 duly adopted by the city in which the municipal court is located and  
5 shall have original jurisdiction of all other actions brought to  
6 enforce or recover license penalties or forfeitures declared or given  
7 by such ordinances or by state statutes. The municipal court shall  
8 also have the jurisdiction as conferred by statute. The municipal  
9 court is empowered to forfeit cash bail or bail bonds and issue  
10 execution thereon; and in general to hear and determine all causes,  
11 civil or criminal, including traffic infractions, arising under such  
12 ordinances and to pronounce judgment in accordance therewith. A  
13 municipal court participating in the program established by the office  
14 of the administrator for the courts pursuant to section 1 of this act  
15 shall have jurisdiction to take recognizance, approve bail, and arraign  
16 defendants held within its jurisdiction on warrants issued by any court  
17 of limited jurisdiction participating in the program.

18 **Sec. 7.** RCW 35.20.030 and 1993 c 83 s 3 are each amended to read  
19 as follows:

20 The municipal court shall have jurisdiction to try violations of  
21 all city ordinances and all other actions brought to enforce or recover  
22 license penalties or forfeitures declared or given by any such  
23 ordinances. It is empowered to forfeit cash bail or bail bonds and  
24 issue execution thereon, to hear and determine all causes, civil or  
25 criminal, arising under such ordinances, and to pronounce judgment in  
26 accordance therewith: PROVIDED, That for a violation of the criminal  
27 provisions of an ordinance no greater punishment shall be imposed than  
28 a fine of five thousand dollars or imprisonment in the city jail not to  
29 exceed one year, or both such fine and imprisonment, but the punishment  
30 for any criminal ordinance shall be the same as the punishment provided  
31 in state law for the same crime. All civil and criminal proceedings in  
32 municipal court, and judgments rendered therein, shall be subject to  
33 review in the superior court by writ of review or on appeal: PROVIDED,  
34 That an appeal from the court's determination or order in a traffic  
35 infraction proceeding may be taken only in accordance with RCW  
36 46.63.090(5). Costs in civil and criminal cases may be taxed as  
37 provided in district courts. A municipal court participating in the  
38 program established by the office of the administrator for the courts

1 pursuant to section 1 of this act shall have jurisdiction to take  
2 recognizance, approve bail, and arraign defendants held within its  
3 jurisdiction on warrants issued by any court of limited jurisdiction  
4 participating in the program.

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