
HOUSE BILL 1956

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Representatives Lovick, Lambert, Dickerson, Boldt, Lantz, O'Brien and Dunn

Read first time 02/09/2001. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to venue for courts of limited jurisdiction; and
2 amending RCW 3.66.070.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 3.66.070 and 2000 c 111 s 4 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) All criminal actions shall be brought in the district where the
7 alleged violation occurred: PROVIDED, That (~~(1)~~) (a) the prosecuting
8 attorney may file felony cases in the district in which the county seat
9 is located, (~~(2)~~) (b) with the consent of the defendant criminal
10 actions other than those arising out of violations of city ordinances
11 may be brought in or transferred to the district in which the county
12 seat is located, (~~(3)~~) (c) if the alleged violation relates to
13 driving, or being in actual physical control of, a motor vehicle while
14 under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug and the alleged
15 violation occurred within a judicial district which has been designated
16 an enhanced enforcement district under RCW 2.56.110, the charges may be
17 filed in that district or in a district within the same county which is
18 adjacent to the district in which the alleged violation occurred, and
19 (~~(4)~~) (d) a district court participating in the program established

1 by the office of the administrator for the courts pursuant to RCW
2 2.56.160 shall have jurisdiction to take recognizance, approve bail,
3 and arraign defendants held within its jurisdiction on warrants issued
4 by any other court of limited jurisdiction participating in the
5 program.

6 (2) In the event of an emergency created by act of nature, civil
7 unrest, technological failure, or other hazardous condition, temporary
8 venue for court of limited jurisdiction matters may be had in a court
9 district not impacted by the emergency. Such emergency venue is
10 appropriate only for the duration of the emergency.

11 (3) A criminal action commenced under a local ordinance is deemed
12 to be properly heard by the court of original jurisdiction even though
13 the hearing may take place by video or other electronic means as
14 approved by the supreme court and the defendant is appearing by an
15 electronic method from a location outside the court's geographic
16 jurisdiction or boundaries.

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