
HOUSE BILL 1607

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By Representative Rodne

Read first time 02/01/13. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to alternative means of service in forcible entry
2 and forcible and unlawful detainer actions; and adding a new section to
3 chapter 59.12 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 59.12 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) When the plaintiff, after the exercise of due diligence, is
8 unable to personally serve the summons on the defendant or defendants,
9 the court may authorize the alternative means of service described in
10 this section.

11 (2) Upon filing of an affidavit from the person or persons
12 attempting service describing those attempts, and the filing of an
13 affidavit from the plaintiff, plaintiff's agent, or plaintiff's
14 attorney stating the belief that the defendant or defendants cannot be
15 found, the court may enter an order authorizing service of the summons
16 as follows:

17 (a) The summons and complaint must be posted in a conspicuous place
18 on the premises unlawfully held not less than nine days from the return
19 date stated in the summons; and

1 (b) Copies of the summons and complaint must be deposited in the
2 mail, postage prepaid, by both regular mail and certified mail directed
3 to the defendant or defendants' last known address not less than nine
4 days from the return date stated in the summons.

5 (3) When service on the defendant or defendants is accomplished by
6 this alternative procedure, the court's jurisdiction is limited to
7 restoring possession of the premises to the plaintiff and no money
8 judgment may be entered against the defendant or defendants until
9 jurisdiction over the defendant or defendants is obtained.

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