

SSB 5004 - H COMM AMD  
By Committee on Judiciary

ADOPTED 4/15/2015

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 35.21  
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1) Any city or town may establish the position of warrant  
6 officer.

7 (2) If any city or town establishes the position of warrant  
8 officer, the position shall be maintained by the city or town within  
9 the city or town police department. The number and qualifications of  
10 warrant officers shall be fixed by ordinance and their compensation  
11 shall be paid by the city or town. The chief of police of the city or  
12 town must establish training requirements consistent with the job  
13 description of warrant officer established in that city or town.

14 (3) Warrant officers shall be vested only with the special  
15 authority identified in ordinance, which may include the authority to  
16 make arrests authorized by warrants and other authority related to  
17 service of civil and criminal process.

18 (4) Process issuing from any court that is directed to a police  
19 department in which a warrant officer position is maintained may be  
20 served or enforced by the warrant officer, if within the warrant  
21 officer's authority as identified in ordinance.

22 (5) Warrant officers shall not be entitled to death, disability,  
23 or retirement benefits pursuant to chapter 41.26 RCW on the basis of  
24 service as a warrant officer as described in this section.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 35A.21  
26 RCW to read as follows:

27 (1) Any code city may establish the position of warrant officer.

28 (2) If any code city establishes the position of warrant officer,  
29 the position shall be maintained by the city within the city police  
30 department. The number and qualifications of warrant officers shall  
31 be fixed by ordinance, and their compensation shall be paid by the  
32 city. The chief of police of the city must establish training

1 requirements consistent with the job description of warrant officer  
2 established in that city.

3 (3) Warrant officers shall be vested only with the special  
4 authority identified in ordinance, which may include the authority to  
5 make arrests authorized by warrants and other authority related to  
6 service of civil and criminal process.

7 (4) Process issuing from any court that is directed to a police  
8 department in which a warrant officer position is maintained may be  
9 served or enforced by the warrant officer, if within the warrant  
10 officer's authority as identified in ordinance.

11 (5) Warrant officers shall not be entitled to death, disability,  
12 or retirement benefits pursuant to chapter 41.26 RCW on the basis of  
13 service as a warrant officer as described in this section.

14 **Sec. 3.** RCW 35.20.270 and 1992 c 99 s 1 are each amended to read  
15 as follows:

16 ~~(1) ((The position of warrant officer is hereby created and shall  
17 be maintained by the city within the city police department. The  
18 number and qualifications of warrant officers shall be fixed by  
19 ordinance, and their compensation shall be paid by the city.~~

20 ~~(2) Warrant officers shall be vested only with the special  
21 authority to make arrests authorized by warrants and other arrests as  
22 are authorized by ordinance.~~

23 ~~(3))~~ All criminal and civil process issuing out of courts  
24 created under this title shall be directed to the chief of police of  
25 the city served by the court and/or to the sheriff of the county in  
26 which the court is held and/or the warrant officers and be by them  
27 executed according to law in any county of this state.

28 ~~((4))~~ (2) No process of courts created under this title shall  
29 be executed outside the corporate limits of the city served by the  
30 court unless the person authorized by the process first contacts the  
31 applicable law enforcement agency in whose jurisdiction the process  
32 is to be served.

33 ~~((5))~~ (3) Upon a defendant being arrested in another city or  
34 county the cost of arresting or serving process thereon shall be  
35 borne by the court issuing the process including the cost of  
36 returning the defendant from any county of the state to the city.

37 ~~((6) Warrant officers shall not be entitled to death,  
38 disability, or retirement benefits pursuant to chapter 41.26 RCW on~~

1 ~~the basis of service as a warrant officer as described in this~~  
2 ~~section.) )"~~

3 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Clarifies that the authority of a warrant officer to serve or enforce a court's process is limited to the authority that the local jurisdiction has granted to the warrant officer through ordinance.

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