
SENATE BILL 6142

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Senators Lias and Walsh

Read first time 01/09/18. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1 AN ACT Relating to commissioners of courts of limited
2 jurisdiction; and amending RCW 3.50.075 and 26.04.050.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 3.50.075 and 2008 c 227 s 8 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) One or more court commissioners may be appointed by a judge
7 of the municipal court.

8 (2) Each commissioner holds office at the pleasure of the
9 appointing judge.

10 (3) A commissioner (~~authorized to hear or dispose of cases~~) has
11 such power, authority, and jurisdiction in criminal and civil matters
12 as the appointing judges possess, and must be a lawyer who is
13 admitted to practice law in the state of Washington or a nonlawyer
14 who has passed, by January 1, 2003, the qualifying examination for
15 lay judges for courts of limited jurisdiction under RCW 3.34.060.

16 (4) On or after July 1, 2010, when serving as a commissioner, the
17 commissioner does not have authority to preside over trials in
18 criminal matters, or jury trials in civil matters unless agreed to on
19 the record by all parties.

20 (5) A commissioner need not be a resident of the city or of the
21 county in which the municipal court is created. When a court

1 commissioner has not been appointed and the municipal court is
2 presided over by a part-time appointed judge, the judge need not be a
3 resident of the city or of the county in which the municipal court is
4 created.

5 **Sec. 2.** RCW 26.04.050 and 2017 c 130 s 1 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 The following named officers and persons, active or retired, are
8 hereby authorized to solemnize marriages, to wit: Justices of the
9 supreme court, judges of the court of appeals, judges of the superior
10 courts, supreme court commissioners, court of appeals commissioners,
11 superior court commissioners, judges and commissioners of courts of
12 limited jurisdiction as defined in RCW 3.02.010, judges of tribal
13 courts from a federally recognized tribe, and any regularly licensed
14 or ordained minister or any priest, imam, rabbi, or similar official
15 of any religious organization. The solemnization of a marriage by a
16 tribal court judge pursuant to authority under this section does not
17 create tribal court jurisdiction and does not affect state court
18 authority as otherwise provided by law to enter a judgment for
19 purposes of any dissolution, legal separation, or other proceedings
20 related to the marriage that is binding on the parties and entitled
21 to full faith and credit.

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