
SENATE BILL 6240

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1998 Regular Session

By Senator Stevens

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to superior court reporters; and amending RCW
2 2.32.180.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 2.32.180 and 1992 c 189 s 6 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 ~~((It shall be and is the duty of))~~ (1) Each ~~((and every))~~ superior
7 court judge ~~((in counties or judicial districts in the state of
8 Washington having a population of over thirty-five thousand inhabitants
9 to appoint, or said judge may, in any county or judicial district
10 having a population of over twenty-five thousand and less than thirty-
11 five thousand,))~~ may appoint a stenographic reporter to be attached to
12 the judge's court who shall have had at least three years' experience
13 as a skilled, practical reporter, or who upon examination shall be able
14 to report and transcribe accurately one hundred and seventy-five words
15 per minute of the judge's charge or two hundred words per minute of
16 testimony each for five consecutive minutes; said test of proficiency,
17 in event of inability to meet qualifications as to length of time of
18 experience, to be given by an examining committee composed of one judge
19 of the superior court and two official reporters of the superior court

1 of the state of Washington, appointed by the president judge of the
2 superior court judges association of the state of Washington(~~(:~~
3 ~~PROVIDED, That a stenographic reporter shall not be required to be~~
4 ~~appointed for the seven additional judges of the superior court~~
5 ~~authorized for appointment by section 1, chapter 323, Laws of 1987, the~~
6 ~~additional superior court judge authorized by section 1, chapter 66,~~
7 ~~Laws of 1988, the additional superior court judges authorized by~~
8 ~~sections 2 and 3, chapter 328, Laws of 1989, the additional superior~~
9 ~~court judges authorized by sections 1 and 2, chapter 186, Laws of 1990,~~
10 ~~or the additional superior court judges authorized by sections 1~~
11 ~~through 5, chapter 189, Laws of 1992)). Appointment of a stenographic~~
12 ~~reporter is not required ((for any additional superior court judge~~
13 ~~authorized after July 1, 1992)).~~

14 (2) The initial judicial appointee to the examining committee shall
15 serve for a period of six years; the two initial reporter appointees
16 shall serve for a period of four years and two years, respectively,
17 from September 1, 1957; thereafter on expiration of the first terms of
18 service, each newly appointed member of said examining committee to
19 serve for a period of six years. In the event of death or inability of
20 a member to serve, the president judge shall appoint a reporter or
21 judge, as the case may be, to serve for the balance of the unexpired
22 term of the member whose inability to serve caused such vacancy. The
23 examining committee shall grant certificates to qualified applicants.
24 Administrative and procedural rules (~~(and regulations)~~) shall be
25 (~~(promulgated)~~) adopted by said examining committee, subject to
26 approval by the said president judge.

27 (3) The stenographic reporter upon appointment shall thereupon
28 become an officer of the court and shall be designated and known as the
29 official reporter for the court or judicial district for which he or
30 she is appointed(~~(:~~~~PROVIDED, That~~)). In no event shall there be
31 appointed more official reporters in any one county or judicial
32 district than there are superior court judges in such county or
33 judicial district; the appointments in each county with a population of
34 one million or more shall be made by the majority vote of the judges in
35 said county acting en banc; the appointments in each county with a
36 population of from one hundred twenty-five thousand to less than one
37 million may be made by each individual judge therein or by the judges
38 in said county acting en banc. Each official reporter so appointed
39 (~~((shall hold office during the term of office of the judge or judges~~

1 ~~appointing him or her, but~~) may be removed for incompetency,
2 misconduct, or neglect of duty, and before entering upon the discharge
3 of his or her duties shall take an oath to perform faithfully the
4 duties of his or her office, and file a bond in the sum of two thousand
5 dollars for the faithful discharge of his or her duties. ((Such
6 ~~reporter in each court is hereby declared to be a necessary part of the~~
7 ~~judicial system of the state of Washington.~~)

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