
HOUSE BILL 1589

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2013 Regular Session

By Representatives Hudgins, Rodne, Angel, Morris, Morrell, Habib, Carlyle, Ryu, and Pollet

Read first time 01/31/13. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to solemnizing marriages; amending RCW 26.04.050
2 and 26.04.070; and adding a new section to chapter 26.04 RCW.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 26.04.050 and 2012 c 3 s 4 are each amended to read as
5 follows:

6 The following named officers and persons, active or retired, are
7 hereby authorized to solemnize marriages, to wit: Justices of the
8 supreme court, judges of the court of appeals, judges of the superior
9 courts, supreme court commissioners, court of appeals commissioners,
10 superior court commissioners, judges of courts of limited jurisdiction
11 as defined in RCW 3.02.010, elected officials in the executive or
12 legislative branch of state, county, or municipal government, and any
13 regularly licensed or ordained minister or any priest, imam, rabbi, or
14 similar official of any religious organization(~~(, and judges of courts~~
15 ~~of limited jurisdiction as defined in RCW 3.02.010)).~~

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 26.04 RCW
17 to read as follows:

18 An elected official in the executive or legislative branch of

1 state, county, or municipal government is not required to solemnize any
2 marriage, and is immune from any civil claim or cause of action based
3 on a refusal to solemnize any marriage.

4 **Sec. 3.** RCW 26.04.070 and 2012 c 3 s 6 are each amended to read as
5 follows:

6 In the solemnization of marriage no particular form is required,
7 except that the parties thereto shall assent or declare in the presence
8 of the minister, priest, imam, rabbi, or similar official of any
9 religious organization, elected official, or judicial officer
10 solemnizing the same, and in the presence of at least two attending
11 witnesses, that they take each other to be spouses.

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