

**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6600**

**State of Washington 57th Legislature**

**2002 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Labor, Commerce & Financial Institutions  
(originally sponsored by Senator Prentice)

READ FIRST TIME 02/04/2002.

1 AN ACT Relating to authorizing unclassified position appointments  
2 in city or town police departments; and adding a new section to chapter  
3 41.12 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 41.12 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) The classified civil service and provisions of this chapter  
8 include all certified police officers and other employees of the police  
9 department in each city or town except the chief and an additional  
10 number of positions, designated the unclassified service, in every city  
11 or town determined as follows:

	Unclassified
Department Personnel	Position Appointments
1 through 10	2
11 through 20	3
21 through 50	4
51 through 100	5
101 through 250	6
251 through 500	8

2       (2) The unclassified position appointments authorized by this  
3 section must include selections from the following positions up to the  
4 limit of the number of positions authorized: Assistant chief, deputy  
5 chief, bureau commander, and administrative assistant or administrative  
6 secretary. The initial selection of specific positions to be exempt  
7 shall be made by the appointing authority, who shall notify the civil  
8 service commission of his or her selection. Subsequent changes in the  
9 designation of which positions are to be exempt may be made only with  
10 the concurrence of the appointing authority, and the mayor or the city  
11 administrator, and the civil service commission, and then only after  
12 the civil service commission has heard the issue in open meeting.  
13 Should the position or positions initially selected by the chief to be  
14 exempt, as unclassified under this section, be under the classified  
15 civil service at the time of the selection, and should the position be  
16 occupied, the employee occupying the position has the right to return  
17 to the next highest position or a like position under classified civil  
18 service.

19       (3) The classified civil service and provisions of this chapter  
20 include all full paid employees of the police department of each city,  
21 town, or municipality coming within its purview, except those  
22 individuals appointed as police chief and the executive staff  
23 personnel, including the assistant chief, deputy chief, bureau  
24 commander, and administrative assistant or administrative secretary to  
25 a department with six or more commissioned officers, including the  
26 police chief. All appointments to and promotions in the department  
27 shall be made solely on merit, efficiency, and fitness except as  
28 provided in RCW 35.13.360 through 35.13.400, which shall be ascertained  
29 by open competitive examination and impartial investigation. No person  
30 shall be reinstated in or transferred, suspended, or discharged from  
31 any such place, position, or employment contrary to the provisions of  
32 this chapter except those exempted positions.

33       (4) This section does not apply to cities and towns in which the  
34 police chief is a mandated civil service position.

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