
HOUSE BILL 1786

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 Regular Session

By Representative Appelwick.

Read first time February 11, 1991. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to mandatory arbitration; reenacting and amending
2 RCW 7.06.020; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 7.06.020 and 1987 c 212 s 101 and 1987 c 202 s 127 are
5 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

6 (1) All civil actions, except for appeals from municipal or
7 district courts, which are at issue in the superior court in counties
8 which have authorized arbitration, where the sole relief sought is a
9 money judgment, and where no party asserts a claim in excess of fifteen
10 thousand dollars, or if approved by the superior court of a county by
11 two-thirds or greater vote of the judges thereof, up to (~~thirty-five~~
12 ~~thousand dollars~~) the amount provided for in subsection (3) of this
13 section, exclusive of interest and costs, are subject to mandatory
14 arbitration.

1 (2) If approved by majority vote of the superior court judges of a
2 county which has authorized arbitration, all civil actions which are at
3 issue in the superior court in which the sole relief sought is the
4 establishment, termination or modification of maintenance or child
5 support payments are subject to mandatory arbitration. The
6 arbitrability of any such action shall not be affected by the amount or
7 number of payments involved.

8 (3) The optional upper limit for arbitration cases authorized under
9 subsection (1) of this section shall be thirty-five thousand dollars
10 unless by July 1, 1991, the jurisdictional limit for district courts as
11 established by RCW 3.66.020 has been increased to at least twenty-five
12 thousand dollars, in which case the limit under subsection (1) of this
13 section shall be forty-five thousand dollars.

14 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. This act is necessary for the immediate
15 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
16 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take
17 effect July 1, 1991.