

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2370

Chapter 125, Laws of 1992

52nd Legislature
1992 Regular Session

PROCESS SERVER REGISTRATION

EFFECTIVE DATE: 6/11/92

Passed by the House March 10, 1992
Yeas 91 Nays 2

JOE KING
**Speaker of the
House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate March 5, 1992
Yeas 48 Nays 0

JOEL PRITCHARD
President of the Senate

Approved March 31, 1992

BOOTH GARDNER
Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Alan Thompson, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2370 as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

ALAN THOMPSON
Chief Clerk

FILED

March 31, 1992 - 12:26 p.m.

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2370

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 1992 Regular Session

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1992 Regular Session

By House Committee on Judiciary (originally sponsored by Representatives Padden, Appelwick, Paris, Ludwig, Vance, Riley, Forner, Broback, D. Sommers, Inslee, Scott, R. Johnson, Franklin, Winsley, Mitchell and Bowman)

Read first time 02/07/92.

1 AN ACT Relating to registration of process servers; adding a new
2 chapter to Title 18 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 36.22 RCW; and
3 creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) A person who serves legal process
6 for a fee in the state of Washington shall register as a process server
7 with the auditor of the county in which the process server resides or
8 operates his or her principal place of business.

9 (2) The requirement to register under subsection (1) of this
10 section does not apply to any of the following persons:

11 (a) A sheriff, deputy sheriff, marshall, constable, or government
12 employee who is acting in the course of employment;

13 (b) An attorney or the attorney's employees, who are not serving
14 process on a fee basis;

- 1 (c) A person who is court appointed to serve the court's process;
2 (d) An employee of a person who is registered under this section;
3 (e) A person who does not receive a fee or wage for serving
4 process.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 36.22 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) Each county auditor shall develop a registration process to
8 register process servers required to register under section 1 of this
9 act.

10 (2) The county auditor may collect an annual registration fee from
11 the process server not to exceed ten dollars.

12 (3) The office of the administrator for the courts shall develop a
13 registration form for the county auditors to use in the registration
14 process for the purpose of identifying and locating the registrant,
15 including the process server's name, birthdate, and social security
16 number, and the process server's business name, business address, and
17 business telephone number.

18 (4) The county auditor shall maintain a register of process servers
19 and assign a number to each registrant. Upon renewal of the
20 registration as required in section 3 of this act, the auditor shall
21 continue to assign the same registration number. A successor entity
22 composed of one or more registrants shall be permitted to transfer one
23 or more registration numbers to the new entity.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A process server required to register
25 under section 1 of this act must renew the registration within one year
26 of the date of the initial registration or when the registrant changes
27 his or her name, the name of his or her business, business address, or
28 business telephone number, whichever occurs sooner. If the renewal is

1 required because of a change in the information identifying the process
2 server, the process server must renew the registration within ten days
3 of the date the identifying information changes. The process server
4 shall pay the registration fee upon renewal.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) A process server required to
6 register under section 1 of this act shall indicate the process
7 server's registration number and the process server's county of
8 registration on any proof of service the process server signs.

9 (2) Employees of a process server required to register under
10 section 1 of this act shall indicate the employer's registration number
11 and the employer's county of registration on any proof of service the
12 registrant's employee signs.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2)
14 of this section, any person who is otherwise entitled to collect the
15 costs of service of process shall not be entitled to collect those
16 costs if the person does not use a process server who under this
17 chapter either is required to register or is exempt from the
18 registration requirement.

19 (2) The person may collect the costs of the service of process if
20 the process server registers within forty-five days after serving the
21 process.

22 (3) This section shall apply to all process served on or after
23 August 1, 1992.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 1 and 3 through 5 of this act
25 shall constitute a new chapter in Title 18 RCW.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Nothing in this act modifies Superior
2 Court Civil Rule 4.

Passed the House March 10, 1992.

Passed the Senate March 5, 1992.

Approved by the Governor March 31, 1992.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 31, 1992.