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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2203**

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**State of Washington**

**53rd Legislature**

**1994 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Judiciary (originally sponsored by Representatives L. Johnson, J. Kohl, Long, King, Sheldon and Springer)

Read first time 01/28/94.

1 AN ACT Relating to courts; and adding a new section to chapter  
2 36.18 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 36.18 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6 Superior court clerks may contract with collection agencies or may  
7 use county collection services for the collection of unpaid court  
8 obligations. Collection may not be initiated with respect to a  
9 criminal offender who is under the supervision of the department of  
10 corrections without the prior agreement of the department.

11 Any contract with a collection agency shall be awarded only after  
12 competitive bidding. Factors that a court clerk shall consider in  
13 awarding a collection contract include but are not limited to: (1) A  
14 collection agency's history and reputation in the community; and (2)  
15 the agency's access to a local data base that may increase the  
16 efficiency of its collections.

1       The servicing of an unpaid court obligation does not constitute  
2 assignment of a debt, and no contract with a collection agency may  
3 remove the court's control over unpaid obligations owed to the court.

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