

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SENATE BILL 5956

Chapter 262, Laws of 1995

54th Legislature
1995 Regular Session

COLLECTION OF COURT-ORDERED LEGAL FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/23/95

Passed by the Senate April 19, 1995
YEAS 46 NAYS 0

JOEL PRITCHARD

President of the Senate

Passed by the House April 6, 1995
YEAS 97 NAYS 0

CLYDE BALLARD

**Speaker of the
House of Representatives**

Approved May 5, 1995

MIKE LOWRY

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Marty Brown, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SENATE BILL 5956** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

MARTY BROWN

Secretary

FILED

May 5, 1995 - 10:32 a.m.

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SENATE BILL 5956

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 1995 Regular Session

State of Washington 54th Legislature 1995 Regular Session

By Senators Rasmussen, Strannigan, Rinehart, Hargrove, Smith, Schow, Prentice, Hochstatter, Wojahn, Haugen, Sheldon, Gaspard, Deccio, Spanel, Morton, Pelz, Franklin, Bauer, Kohl, Sutherland, Palmer, McDonald, Wood, A. Anderson, Owen, McAuliffe, Fraser, Long, West, Oke and Winsley

Read first time 02/16/95. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1 AN ACT Relating to collection of unpaid court-ordered legal
2 financial obligations; and amending RCW 36.18.190.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 36.18.190 and 1994 c 185 s 9 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 Superior court clerks may contract with collection agencies under
7 chapter 19.16 RCW or may use county collection services for the
8 collection of unpaid ~~((court))~~ court-ordered legal financial
9 obligations as enumerated in RCW 9.94A.030 that are ordered pursuant to
10 a felony or misdemeanor conviction. The costs for the agencies or
11 county services shall be paid by the debtor. The superior court may,
12 at sentencing or at any time within ten years, assess as court costs
13 the moneys paid for remuneration for services or charges paid to
14 collection agencies or for collection services. Collection may not be
15 initiated with respect to a criminal offender who is under the
16 supervision of the department of corrections without the prior
17 agreement of the department. Superior court clerks are encouraged to
18 initiate collection action with respect to a criminal offender who is

1 under the supervision of the department of corrections, with the
2 department's approval.

3 Any contract with a collection agency shall be awarded only after
4 competitive bidding. Factors that a court clerk shall consider in
5 awarding a collection contract include but are not limited to: (1) A
6 collection agency's history and reputation in the community; and (2)
7 the agency's access to a local data base that may increase the
8 efficiency of its collections. Contracts may specify the scope of
9 work, remuneration for services, and other charges deemed appropriate.

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

Passed the Senate April 19, 1995.

Passed the House April 6, 1995.

Approved by the Governor May 5, 1995.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 5, 1995.