

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 1530

Chapter 119, Laws of 2001

57th Legislature
2001 Regular Legislative Session

LOCAL GOVERNMENT--SERVICE OF CLAIMS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/22/01

Passed by the House March 9, 2001
Yeas 95 Nays 0

FRANK CHOPP
Speaker of the House of Representatives

CLYDE BALLARD
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed by the Senate April 9, 2001
Yeas 47 Nays 0

BRAD OWEN
President of the Senate

Approved April 27, 2001

GARY LOCKE
Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

We, Timothy A. Martin and Cynthia Zehnder, Co-Chief Clerks of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 1530** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

TIMOTHY A. MARTIN
Chief Clerk

CYNTHIA ZEHNDER
Chief Clerk

FILED

April 27, 2001 - 1:08 p.m.

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 1530

Passed Legislature - 2001 Regular Session

State of Washington 57th Legislature 2001 Regular Session

By Representatives Lantz and Carrell

Read first time 01/29/2001. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to serving claims against local governmental
2 entities for tortious conduct; and amending RCW 4.96.010 and 4.96.020.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 4.96.010 and 1993 c 449 s 2 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) All local governmental entities, whether acting in a
7 governmental or proprietary capacity, shall be liable for damages
8 arising out of their tortious conduct, or the tortious conduct of their
9 past or present officers, employees, or volunteers while performing or
10 in good faith purporting to perform their official duties, to the same
11 extent as if they were a private person or corporation. Filing a claim
12 for damages within the time allowed by law shall be a condition
13 precedent to the commencement of any action claiming damages. The laws
14 specifying the content for such claims shall be liberally construed so
15 that substantial compliance therewith will be deemed satisfactory.

16 (2) Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, for the purposes
17 of this chapter, "local governmental entity" means a county, city,
18 town, special district, municipal corporation as defined in RCW
19 39.50.010, ((or)) quasi-municipal corporation, or public hospital.

1 (3) For the purposes of this chapter, "volunteer" is defined
2 according to RCW 51.12.035.

3 **Sec. 2.** RCW 4.96.020 and 1993 c 449 s 3 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 (1) The provisions of this section apply to claims for damages
6 against all local governmental entities.

7 (2) The governing body of each local government entity shall
8 appoint an agent to receive any claim for damages made under this
9 chapter. The identity of the agent and the address where he or she may
10 be reached during the normal business hours of the local governmental
11 entity are public records and shall be recorded with the auditor of the
12 county in which the entity is located. All claims for damages against
13 ((any such)) a local governmental entity ((for damages)) shall be
14 presented to ((and filed with the governing body thereof)) the agent
15 within the applicable period of limitations within which an action must
16 be commenced.

17 (3) All claims for damages arising out of tortious conduct must
18 locate and describe the conduct and circumstances which brought about
19 the injury or damage, describe the injury or damage, state the time and
20 place the injury or damage occurred, state the names of all persons
21 involved, if known, and shall contain the amount of damages claimed,
22 together with a statement of the actual residence of the claimant at
23 the time of presenting and filing the claim and for a period of six
24 months immediately prior to the time the claim arose. If the claimant
25 is incapacitated from verifying, presenting, and filing the claim in
26 the time prescribed or if the claimant is a minor, or is a nonresident
27 of the state absent therefrom during the time within which the claim is
28 required to be filed, the claim may be verified, presented, and filed
29 on behalf of the claimant by any relative, attorney, or agent
30 representing the claimant.

31 (4) No action shall be commenced against any local governmental
32 entity for damages arising out of tortious conduct until sixty days
33 have elapsed after the claim has first been presented to and filed with
34 the governing body thereof. The applicable period of limitations
35 within which an action must be commenced shall be tolled during the
36 sixty-day period.

Passed the House March 9, 2001.
Passed the Senate April 9, 2001.
Approved by the Governor April 27, 2001.
Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 27, 2001.