CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**HOUSE BILL 1601**

Chapter 138, Laws of 2015

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

COUNTIES--PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTS--VENUE OF ACTIONS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/24/2015

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| Passed by the House March 3, 2015  Yeas 97 Nays 0  FRANK CHOPP  **Speaker of the House of Representatives**  Passed by the Senate April 13, 2015  Yeas 42 Nays 2  BRAD OWEN  **President of the Senate** | CERTIFICATE  I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **HOUSE BILL 1601** as passed by House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.  BARBARA BAKER  **Chief Clerk** |
| Approved April 29, 2015 1:47 PM | April 29, 2015 |
| JAY INSLEE  **Governor of the State of Washington** | **Secretary of State**  **State of Washington** |

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**HOUSE BILL 1601**

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Passed Legislature - 2015 Regular Session

**State of Washington 64th Legislature 2015 Regular Session**

**By** Representative Rodne

AN ACT Relating to venue of actions by or against counties; and amending RCW 36.01.050.

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

**Sec.**  RCW 36.01.050 and 2005 c 282 s 42 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) All actions against any county may be commenced in the superior court of such county, or in the superior court of either of the two nearest judicial districts. All actions by any county shall be commenced in the superior court of the county in which the defendant resides, or in either of the two judicial districts nearest to the county bringing the action.

(2) The determination of the nearest judicial districts is measured by the travel time between county seats using major surface routes, as determined by the administrative office of the courts.

(3) Any provision in a public works contract with any county that requires actions arising under the contract to be commenced in the superior court of the county is against public policy and the provision is void and unenforceable. This subsection shall not be construed to void any contract provision requiring a dispute arising under the contract to be submitted to arbitration.

**--- END ---**

Passed by the House March 3, 2015.

Passed by the Senate April 13, 2015.

Approved by the Governor April 29, 2015.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 29, 2015.