
HOUSE BILL 1649

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Representatives Hackney and Berry

1 AN ACT Relating to prejudgment interest; amending RCW 4.56.110;
2 and repealing RCW 4.56.111.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 4.56.110 and 2019 c 371 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 Interest on judgments shall accrue as follows:

7 (1) Judgments founded on written contracts, providing for the
8 payment of interest until paid at a specified rate, shall bear
9 interest at the rate specified in the contracts: PROVIDED, That said
10 interest rate is set forth in the judgment.

11 (2) All judgments for unpaid child support that have accrued
12 under a superior court order or an order entered under the
13 administrative procedure act shall bear interest at the rate of
14 twelve percent.

15 (3) (a) (~~Judgments~~) (i) Except as otherwise provided in this
16 subsection (3), judgments founded on the tortious conduct of a
17 "public agency" as defined in RCW 42.30.020 shall bear interest from
18 the date (~~of entry~~) the cause of action accrued at two percentage
19 points above the equivalent coupon issue yield, as published by the
20 board of governors of the federal reserve system, of the average bill
21 rate for twenty-six week treasury bills as determined at the first

1 bill market auction conducted during the calendar month immediately
2 preceding the date of entry. In any case where a court is directed on
3 review to enter judgment on a verdict or in any case where a judgment
4 entered on a verdict is wholly or partly affirmed on review, interest
5 on the judgment or on that portion of the judgment affirmed shall
6 ~~((date back to and shall accrue from the date the verdict was
7 rendered))~~ continue to accrue during the pendency of the appeal until
8 the judgment, or on that portion of the judgment affirmed, until the
9 judgment is paid and satisfied.

10 (ii) Judgments founded on tortious conduct that occurred while
11 the plaintiff was a minor shall bear interest at the same rate as in
12 (a)(i) of this subsection (3) from the date the action is commenced,
13 or the date the minor attains the age of eighteen years, whichever is
14 earlier.

15 (b) (i) Except as otherwise provided in ~~((a) of)~~ this subsection
16 (3), judgments founded on the tortious conduct of individuals or
17 other entities that are not a "public agency" as defined in RCW
18 42.30.020, whether acting in their personal or representative
19 capacities, shall bear interest from the date ~~((of entry))~~ the cause
20 of action accrued at two percentage points above the prime rate, as
21 published by the board of governors of the federal reserve system on
22 the first business day of the calendar month immediately preceding
23 the date of entry. In any case where a court is directed on review to
24 enter judgment on a verdict or in any case where a judgment entered
25 on a verdict is wholly or partly affirmed on review, interest on the
26 judgment or on that portion of the judgment affirmed shall ~~((date
27 back to and shall accrue from the date the verdict was rendered))~~
28 continue to accrue during the pendency of the appeal until the
29 judgment, or on that portion of the judgment affirmed, until the
30 judgment is paid and satisfied.

31 (ii) Judgments founded on tortious conduct that occurred while
32 the plaintiff was a minor shall bear interest at the same rate as in
33 (b)(i) of this subsection (3) from the date the action is commenced,
34 or the date the minor attains the age of eighteen years, whichever is
35 earlier.

36 (c) Compromise and settlement judgments entered pursuant to RCW
37 4.92.150 against the state, or any of its officers, employees, or
38 volunteers arising out of tortious conduct or pursuant to 42 U.S.C.
39 Sec. 1981 et seq., or against a foster parent that the attorney

1 general is defending pursuant to RCW 4.92.070, bear interest only
2 from the date of entry.

3 (4) Except as provided under subsection (1) of this section,
4 judgments for unpaid private student loan debt, as defined in RCW
5 6.01.060, shall bear interest from the date of entry at two
6 percentage points above the prime rate, as published by the board of
7 governors of the federal reserve system on the first business day of
8 the calendar month immediately preceding the date of entry.

9 (5) Except as provided under subsection (1) of this section,
10 judgments for unpaid consumer debt, as defined in RCW 6.01.060, shall
11 bear interest from the date of entry at a rate of nine percent.

12 (6) Except as provided under subsections (1) through (5) of this
13 section, judgments shall bear interest from the date of entry at the
14 maximum rate permitted under RCW 19.52.020 on the date of entry
15 thereof. In any case where a court is directed on review to enter
16 judgment on a verdict or in any case where a judgment entered on a
17 verdict is wholly or partly affirmed on review, interest on the
18 judgment or on that portion of the judgment affirmed shall date back
19 to and shall accrue from the date the verdict was rendered. The
20 method for determining an interest rate prescribed by this subsection
21 is also the method for determining the "rate applicable to civil
22 judgments" for purposes of RCW 10.82.090.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** RCW 4.56.111 (Interest on judgments—Rate)
24 and 2010 c 149 s 2 are each repealed.

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