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SENATE BILL 5240

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State of Washington                      63rd Legislature                      2013 Regular Session

By Senators Kline, Delvin, Keiser, and Kohl-Welles

Read first time 01/24/13. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1            AN ACT Relating to court security; amending RCW 3.58.050, 3.50.080,  
2 and 35.20.120; adding a new section to chapter 3.58 RCW; adding a new  
3 section to chapter 3.50 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 35.20  
4 RCW.

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

6            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 3.58 RCW  
7 to read as follows:

8            Counties shall provide security to district courts in order to:

9            (1) Promote the safety and security of all court facilities and  
10 proceedings;

11            (2) Ensure access to court proceedings as guaranteed by Article 1,  
12 section 10 of the Washington state Constitution; and

13            (3) Assist judges in carrying out their respective constitutional  
14 and statutory duties.

15            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 3.50 RCW  
16 to read as follows:

17            Cities shall provide security to municipal courts in order to:

- 1 (1) Promote the safety and security of all court facilities and  
2 proceedings;
- 3 (2) Ensure access to court proceedings as guaranteed by Article 1,  
4 section 10 of the Washington state Constitution; and
- 5 (3) Assist judges in carrying out their respective constitutional  
6 and statutory duties.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 35.20 RCW  
8 to read as follows:

9 Cities shall provide security to municipal courts in order to:

- 10 (1) Promote the safety and security of all court facilities and  
11 proceedings;
- 12 (2) Ensure access to court proceedings as guaranteed by Article 1,  
13 section 10 of the Washington state Constitution; and
- 14 (3) Assist judicial officers in carrying out their respective  
15 constitutional and statutory duties.

16 **Sec. 4.** RCW 3.58.050 and 1984 c 258 s 38 are each amended to read  
17 as follows:

18 The county legislative authority shall furnish all necessary  
19 facilities for the district courts, including suitable secure  
20 (~~courtrooms~~) courthouses, furniture, books, stationery, postage,  
21 office equipment, heat, light and telephone and may lease or construct  
22 courtrooms and offices for such purpose. The county legislative  
23 authority shall not be required to furnish courtroom space in any place  
24 other than as provided in the districting plan.

25 **Sec. 5.** RCW 3.50.080 and 1984 c 258 s 111 are each amended to read  
26 as follows:

27 Salaries of municipal court judges shall be fixed by ordinance.  
28 All costs of operating the municipal court, including but not limited  
29 to salaries of judges and court employees, courthouse security,  
30 dockets, books of records, forms, furnishings, and supplies, shall be  
31 paid wholly out of the funds of the city or town. The city shall  
32 provide a suitable place for holding court and pay all expenses of  
33 maintaining it.

34 All employees of the municipal court shall, for all purposes, be

1 deemed employees of the city or town. They shall be appointed by and  
2 serve at the pleasure of the court.

3 **Sec. 6.** RCW 35.20.120 and 1987 c 202 s 196 are each amended to  
4 read as follows:

5 All blanks, books, papers, stationery and furniture necessary for  
6 the transaction of business and the keeping of records of the court,  
7 and courthouse security shall be furnished at the expense of the city,  
8 except those expenses incidental to the operation of the court in  
9 matters brought before the court because of concurrent jurisdiction  
10 with the district court, which expense shall be borne by the county and  
11 paid out of the county treasury. All other expenses on account of such  
12 court which may be authorized by the city council or the county  
13 commissioners and which are not specifically mentioned in this chapter,  
14 shall be paid respectively out of the city treasury and county  
15 treasury.

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