

CHAPTER 80

[Senate Bill No. 5983]

WATER RIGHTS—COMPLEX CASES—RETENTION BY SUPERIOR COURT

AN ACT Relating to water rights; and amending RCW 90.03.160.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Sec. 1. Section 19, chapter 117, Laws of 1917 as amended by section 76, chapter 109, Laws of 1987 and RCW 90.03.160 are each amended to read as follows:

Upon the completion of the service of summons as hereinbefore provided, the superior court in which said proceeding is pending shall make an order referring said proceeding to the department to take testimony by its duly authorized designee, as referee, and the designee shall report to and file with the superior court of the county in which such cause is pending a transcript of such testimony for adjudication thereon by such court. The superior court may, in any complex case with more than one thousand named defendants, including the United States, retain for hearing and further processing such portions of the proceeding as pertain to a discrete class or classes of defendants or claims of water rights if the court determines that: (1) Resolution of claims of such classes appear to involve significant issues of law, either procedural or substantive; and (2) such a retention will both expedite the conclusion of the case and reduce the overall expenditures of the plaintiff, defendants, and the court.

Passed the Senate March 6, 1989.

Passed the House March 31, 1989.

Approved by the Governor April 19, 1989.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 19, 1989.

CHAPTER 81

[Substitute House Bill No. 1774]

SKI AREA OPERATORS—LIMITATIONS ON LIABILITY

AN ACT Relating to duties of operators and users of commercial ski areas; amending RCW 70.117.010, 70.117.020, and 70.117.030; adding new sections to chapter 70.117 RCW; and declaring an emergency.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. A new section is added to chapter 70.117 RCW to read as follows:

As used in this chapter, the following terms have the meanings indicated unless the context clearly requires otherwise.