

from which the execution issued, and be tried by a jury as other civil actions are tried.

Approved February 24, 1891.

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## CHAPTER XXIII.

[S. B. No. 78.]

### CONSTRUCTION OF STATUTES.

AN ACT concerning the construction of statutes.

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

SECTION 1. The following provisions relative to the construction of statutes shall be rules of construction and shall constitute a part of the code of procedure of this state: The provisions of this code shall be liberally construed, and shall not be limited by any rule of strict construction. The provisions of a statute, so far as they are substantially the same as those of a statute existing at the time of their enactment, must be construed as continuations thereof. The term "person" may be construed to include the United States, this state, or any state or territory, or any public or private corporation, as well as an individual. Words importing the singular number may also be applied to the plural of persons and things; words importing the plural may be applied to the singular; and words importing the masculine gender may be extended to females also. That the word "month" or "months" whenever the same occurs in the statutes of this state now in force, or in statutes hereinafter enacted, or in any contract made in this state, shall be taken and construed to mean "calendar months."

The term  
"person."

Singular and  
plural.

The term  
"month."

Approved February 24, 1891.