

82.38.180(3).

((c) Within six months from the date the assessment becomes final or within six months from the date of collection, whichever period expires the later, with respect to assessments made by the department under REW 82.38.170(4) and (5):)

(4) Within thirty days after disallowing any claim in whole or in part, the department shall serve written notice of its action on the claimant.

(5) Interest shall be paid upon any refundable amount or credit due under RCW 82.38.180(3) at the rate of one percent per month from the last day of the calendar month following the monthly period for which the refundable amount or credit is due.

The interest shall be paid:

(a) In the case of a refund, to the last day of the calendar month following the date upon which the person making the overpayment, if he has not already filed a claim, is notified by the department that a claim may be filed or the date upon which the claim is approved by the department, whichever date is earlier.

(b) In the case of a credit, to the same date as that to which interest is computed on the tax or amount against which the credit is applied.

If the department determines that any overpayment has been made intentionally or by reason of carelessness, it shall not allow any interest thereon.

(6) No injunction or writ of mandate or other legal or equitable process shall issue in any suit, action or proceeding in any court against this state or against any officer of the state to prevent or enjoin the collection under this chapter of any tax or any amount of tax required to be collected.

Passed the House March 27, 1973.

Passed the Senate April 13, 1973.

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Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 25, 1973.

CHAPTER 157

[Substitute House Bill No. 392]

MARRIAGE--DISSOLUTION--LEGAL

SEPARATION--DECLARATIONS OF INVALIDITY

AN ACT Relating to divorce; adding a new chapter to Title 26 RCW; repealing section 1, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.010; repealing section 2, chapter 215, Laws of 1949, section 1, chapter 15, Laws of 1965 ex. sess. and RCW

26.08.020; repealing section 3, chapter 215, Laws of 1949, section 1, chapter 28, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. and RCW 26.08.030; repealing section 4, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.040; repealing section 5, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.050; repealing section 6, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.060; repealing section 7, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.070; repealing section 8, chapter 215, Laws of 1949, section 1, chapter 21, Laws of 1972 ex. sess. and RCW 26.08.080; repealing section 9, chapter 215, Laws of 1949, section 70, chapter 81, Laws of 1971 and RCW 26.08.090; repealing section 10, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.100; repealing section 11, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.110; repealing section 12, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.120; repealing section 13, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.130; repealing section 14, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.140; repealing section 15, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.150; repealing section 16, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.160; repealing section 17, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.170; repealing section 18, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.180; repealing section 19, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.190; repealing section 20, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.200; repealing section 21, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.210; repealing section 11, chapter 26, Laws of 1967 and RCW 26.08.215; repealing section 22, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.220; and repealing section 1, chapter 135, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.230.

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

NEW SECTION. Section. 1. (1) Except as otherwise specifically provided herein, the practice in civil action shall govern all proceedings under this chapter, except that trial by jury is dispensed with.

(2) A proceeding for dissolution of marriage, legal separation or a declaration concerning the validity of a marriage shall be entitled "In re the marriage of and"

(3) In cases where there has been no prior proceeding in this state involving the marital status of the parties or custody or support obligations, a separate custody or support proceeding shall be entitled "In re the (custody) (support) of"

(4) The initial pleading in all proceedings for dissolution of marriage under this chapter shall be denominated a petition. A responsive pleading shall be denominated a response. Other pleadings, and all pleadings in other matters under this chapter shall be denominated as provided in the civil rules for superior court.

(5) In this chapter, "decree" includes "judgment".

(6) A decree of dissolution, of legal separation, or a declaration concerning the validity of a marriage shall not be awarded to one of the parties, but shall provide that it affects the status previously existing between the parties in the manner decreed.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. (1) A petition in a proceeding for dissolution of marriage, legal separation, or for a declaration concerning the validity of a marriage, shall allege the following:

- (a) The last known residence of each party;
 - (b) The date and place of the marriage and the place at which it was registered;
 - (c) If the parties are separated the date on which the separation occurred;
 - (d) The names, ages, and addresses of any child dependent upon either or both spouses and whether the wife is pregnant;
 - (e) Any arrangements as to the custody, visitation and support of the children and the maintenance of a spouse;
 - (f) A statement specifying whether there is community or separate property owned by the parties to be disposed of;
 - (g) The relief sought.
- (2) Either or both parties to the marriage may initiate the proceeding.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. When a party who is a resident of this state or who is a member of the armed forces and is stationed in this state, petitions for a dissolution of marriage, and alleges that the marriage is irretrievably broken and when ninety days have elapsed since the petition was filed and from the date when service of summons was made upon the respondent or the first publication of summons was made, the court shall proceed as follows:

(1) If the other party joins in the petition or does not deny that the marriage is irretrievably broken, the court shall enter a decree of dissolution.

(2) If the other party alleges that the petitioner was induced to file the petition by fraud, or coercion, the court shall make a finding as to that allegation and, if it so finds shall dismiss the petition.

(3) If the other party denies that the marriage is irretrievably broken the court shall consider all relevant factors, including the circumstances that gave rise to the filing of the petition and the prospects for reconciliation and shall:

(a) Make a finding that the marriage is irretrievably broken and enter a decree of dissolution of the marriage; or

(b) At the request of either party or on its own motion, transfer the cause to the family court, refer them to another counseling service of their choice, and request a report back from the counseling service within sixty days, or continue the matter for

not more than sixty days for hearing. If the cause is returned from the family court or at the adjourned hearing, the court shall:

(i) Find that the parties have agreed to reconciliation and dismiss the petition; or

(ii) Find that the parties have not been reconciled, and that either party continues to allege that the marriage is irretrievably broken. When such facts are found, the court shall enter a decree of dissolution of the marriage.

(4) If the petitioner requests the court to decree legal separation in lieu of dissolution, the court shall enter the decree in that form unless the other party objects and petitions for a decree of dissolution or declaration of invalidity.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. (1) While both parties to an alleged marriage are living, and at least one party is resident in this state or a member of the armed service and stationed in the state, a petition to have the marriage declared invalid may be brought by:

(a) Either or both parties, for any cause specified in subsection (4) of this section; or

(b) Either or both parties, the legal spouse, or a child of either party when it is alleged that the marriage is bigamous.

(2) If the validity of a marriage is denied or questioned at any time, either or both parties to the marriage may petition the court for a judicial determination of the validity of such marriage. The petitioner in such action shall be the person or entity denying or questioning the validity of the marriage.

(3) In a proceeding to declare the invalidity of a marriage, the court shall proceed in the manner and shall have the jurisdiction, including the authority to provide for maintenance, custody, visitation, support, and division of the property of the parties, provided by this chapter.

(4) After hearing the evidence concerning the validity of a marriage, the court:

(a) If it finds the marriage to be valid, shall enter a decree of validity;

(b) If it finds that:

(i) The marriage should not have been contracted because of age of one or both of the parties, lack of required parental or court approval, a prior undissolved marriage of one or both of the parties, reasons of consanguinity, or because a party lacked capacity to consent to the marriage, either because of mental incapacity or because of the influence of alcohol or other incapacitating substances, or because a party was induced to enter into the marriage by force or duress, or by fraud involving the essentials of marriage, and that the parties have not ratified their marriage by voluntarily cohabiting after attaining the age of consent, or after attaining

capacity to consent, or after cessation of the force or duress or discovery of the fraud, shall declare the marriage invalid as of the date it was purportedly contracted;

(ii) The marriage should not have been contracted because of any reason other than those above, shall upon motion of a party, order any action which may be appropriate to complete or to correct the record and enter a decree declaring such marriage to be valid for all purposes from the date upon which it was purportedly contracted;

(c) If it finds that a marriage contracted in a jurisdiction other than this state, was void or voidable under the law of the place where the marriage was contracted, and in the absence of proof that such marriage was subsequently validated by the laws of the place of contract or of a subsequent domicile of the parties, shall declare the marriage invalid as of the date of the marriage.

(5) Any child of the parties born or conceived during the existence of a marriage of record is legitimate and remains legitimate notwithstanding the entry of a declaration of invalidity of the marriage.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. In entering a decree of dissolution of marriage, legal separation, or declaration of invalidity, the court shall consider, approve, or make provision for child custody and visitation, the support of any child of the marriage entitled to support, the maintenance of either spouse, and the disposition of property and liabilities of the parties.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. (1) In a proceeding for:

(a) Dissolution of marriage, legal separation, or a declaration of invalidity; or

(b) Disposition of property or liabilities, maintenance, or support following dissolution of the marriage by a court which lacked personal jurisdiction over the absent spouse; either party may move for temporary maintenance or for temporary support of children entitled to support. The motion shall be accompanied by an affidavit setting forth the factual basis for the motion and the amounts requested.

(2) As a part of a motion for temporary maintenance or support or by independent motion accompanied by affidavit, either party may request the court to issue a temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction, providing relief proper in the circumstances, and restraining or enjoining any person from:

(a) Transferring, removing, encumbering, concealing, or in any way disposing of any property except in the usual course of business or for the necessities of life, and, if so restrained or enjoined, requiring him to notify the moving party of any proposed extraordinary expenditures made after the order is issued;

(b) Molesting or disturbing the peace of the other party or of

any child;

(c) Entering the family home or the home of the other party upon a showing of the necessity therefor;

(d) Removing a child from the jurisdiction of the court.

(3) The court may issue a temporary restraining order without requiring notice to the other party only if it finds on the basis of the moving affidavit or other evidence that irreparable injury could result if an order is not issued until the time for responding has elapsed.

(4) The court may issue a temporary injunction and an order for temporary maintenance or support in such amounts and on such terms as are just and proper in the circumstances.

(5) A temporary order or temporary injunction:

(a) Does not prejudice the rights of a party or any child which are to be adjudicated at subsequent hearings in the proceeding;

(b) May be revoked or modified;

(c) Terminates when the final decree is entered or when the petition for dissolution, legal separation, or declaration of invalidity is dismissed.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. (1) The parties to a marriage, in order to promote the amicable settlement of disputes attendant upon their separation or upon the filing of a petition for dissolution of their marriage, a decree of legal separation, or declaration of invalidity of their marriage, may enter into a written separation contract providing for the maintenance of either of them, the disposition of any property owned by both or either of them, the custody, support, and visitation of their children and for the release of each other from all obligation except that expressed in the contract.

(2) If the parties to such contract elect to live separate and apart without any court decree, they may record such contract and cause notice thereof to be published in a legal newspaper of the county wherein the parties resided prior to their separation. Recording such contract and publishing notice of the making thereof shall constitute notice to all persons of such separation and of the facts contained in the recorded document.

(3) If either or both of the parties to a separation contract shall at the time of the execution thereof, or at a subsequent time, petition the court for dissolution of their marriage, for a decree of legal separation, or for a declaration of invalidity of their marriage, the contract, except for those terms providing for the custody, support, and visitation of children, shall be binding upon the court unless it finds, after considering the economic circumstances of the parties and any other relevant evidence produced by the parties on their own motion or on request of the court, that the separation contract was unfair at the time of its execution.

(4) If the court in an action for dissolution of marriage, legal separation, or declaration of invalidity finds that the separation contract was unfair at the time of its execution, it may make orders for the maintenance of either party, the disposition of their property and the discharge of their obligations.

(5) Unless the separation contract provides to the contrary, the agreement shall be set forth in the decree of dissolution, legal separation, or declaration of invalidity, or filed in the action or made an exhibit and incorporated by reference, except that in all cases the terms for custody, support, and visitation shall be set out in the decree, and the parties shall be ordered to comply with its terms.

(6) Terms of the contract set forth or incorporated by reference in the decree may be enforced by all remedies available for the enforcement of a judgment, including contempt, and are enforceable as contract terms.

(7) When the separation contract so provides, the decree may expressly preclude or limit modification of any provision for maintenance set forth in the decree. Terms of a separation contract pertaining to custody, support, and visitation of children and, in the absence of express provision to the contrary, terms providing for maintenance set forth or incorporated by reference in the decree are automatically modified by modification of the decree.

(8) If at any time the parties to the separation contract by mutual agreement elect to terminate the separation contract they may do so without formality unless the contract was recorded as in subsection (2) of this section, in which case a statement should be filed terminating the contract.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. In a proceeding for dissolution of the marriage, legal separation, declaration of invalidity, or in a proceeding for disposition of property following dissolution of the marriage by a court which lacked personal jurisdiction over the absent spouse or lacked jurisdiction to dispose of the property, the court shall, without regard to marital misconduct, make such disposition of the property and the liabilities of the parties, either community or separate, as shall appear just and equitable after considering all relevant factors including, but not limited to:

- (1) The nature and extent of the community property;
- (2) The nature and extent of the separate property;
- (3) The duration of the marriage; and
- (4) The economic circumstances of each spouse at the time the division of property is to become effective, including the desirability of awarding the family home or the right to live therein for reasonable periods to a spouse having custody of any children.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. (1) In a proceeding for dissolution of

marriage, legal separation, declaration of invalidity, or in a proceeding for maintenance following dissolution of the marriage by a court which lacked personal jurisdiction over the absent spouse, the court may grant a maintenance order for either spouse. The maintenance order shall be in such amounts and for such periods of time as the court deems just, without regard to marital misconduct, after considering all relevant factors including but not limited to:

(a) The financial resources of the party seeking maintenance, including separate or community property apportioned to him, and his ability to meet his needs independently, including the extent to which a provision for support of a child living with the party includes a sum for that party as custodian;

(b) The time necessary to acquire sufficient education or training to enable the party seeking maintenance to find employment appropriate to his skill, interests, style of life, and other attendant circumstances;

(c) The standard of living established during the marriage;

(d) The duration of the marriage;

(e) The age, physical and emotional condition, and financial obligations of the spouse seeking maintenance; and

(f) The ability of the spouse from whom maintenance is sought to meet his needs and financial obligations while meeting those of the spouse seeking maintenance.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 10. In a proceeding for dissolution of marriage, legal separation, declaration of invalidity, maintenance, or child support, after considering all relevant factors but without regard to marital misconduct, the court may order either or both parents owing a duty of support to any child of the marriage dependent upon either or both spouses to pay an amount reasonable or necessary for his support.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. The court may appoint an attorney to represent the interests of a minor or dependent child with respect to his custody, support, and visitation. The court shall enter an order for costs, fees, and disbursements in favor of the child's attorney. The order shall be made against either or both parents, except that, if both parties are indigent, the costs, fees, and disbursements shall be borne by the county.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 12. (1) The court may, upon its own motion or upon motion of either party, order support or maintenance payments to be made to:

(a) The person entitled to receive the payments; or

(b) The department of social and health services pursuant to chapters 74.20 and 74.20A RCW; or

(c) The clerk of court as trustee for remittance to the person entitled to receive the payments.

(2) If payments are made to the clerk of court:

(a) The clerk shall maintain records listing the amount of payments, the date when payments are required to be made, and the names and addresses of the parties affected by the order; and

(b) The parties affected by the order shall inform the clerk of the court of any change of address or of other conditions that may affect the administration of the order; and

(c) The clerk of the court shall, if the party fails to make required payment, send by first class mail notice of the arrearage to the obligor. If payment of the sum due is not made to the clerk of the court within ten days after sending notice, the clerk of the court shall certify the amount due to the prosecuting attorney.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 13. The court may order the person obligated to pay support or maintenance to make an assignment of a part of his periodic earnings or trust income to the person or agency entitled to receive the payments: PROVIDED, That the provisions of RCW 7.33.280 in regard to exemptions in garnishment proceedings shall apply to such assignments. The assignment is binding on the employer, trustee or other payor of the funds two weeks after service upon him of notice that it has been made. The payor shall withhold from the earnings or trust income payable to the person obligated to support the amount specified in the assignment and shall transmit the payments to the person specified in the order. The payor may deduct from each payment a sum not exceeding one dollar as reimbursement for costs. An employer shall not discharge or otherwise discipline an employee as a result of a wage or salary assignment authorized by this section.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 14. The court from time to time after considering the financial resources of both parties may order a party to pay a reasonable amount for the cost to the other party of maintaining or defending any proceeding under this chapter and for reasonable attorney's fees or other professional fees in connection therewith, including sums for legal services rendered and costs incurred prior to the commencement of the proceeding or enforcement or modification proceedings after entry of judgment.

Upon any appeal, the appellate court may, in its discretion, order a party to pay for the cost to the other party of maintaining the appeal and attorney's fees in addition to statutory costs.

The court may order that the attorney's fees be paid directly to the attorney who may enforce the order in his name.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 15. A decree of dissolution of marriage, legal separation, or declaration of invalidity is final when entered, subject to the right of appeal. An appeal which does not challenge the finding that the marriage is irretrievably broken or was invalid, does not delay the finality of the dissolution or declaration of

invalidity and either party may remarry pending such an appeal.

No earlier than six months after entry of a decree of legal separation, on motion of either party, the court shall convert the decree of legal separation to a decree of dissolution of marriage. The clerk of court shall complete the certificate as provided for in RCW 70.58.200 on the form provided by the department of social and health services. On or before the tenth day of each month, the clerk of the court shall forward to the state registrar of vital statistics the certificate of each decree of divorce, dissolution of marriage, annulment, or separate maintenance granted during the preceding month.

Upon request by a wife whose marriage is dissolved or declared invalid, the court shall order a former name restored and may, on motion of either party, for just and reasonable cause, order the wife to assume a name other than that of the husband.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 16. If a party fails to comply with a provision of a decree or temporary order of injunction, the obligation of the other party to make payments for support or maintenance or to permit visitation is not suspended, but he may move the court to grant an appropriate order.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 17. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (7) of section 7 of this 1973 act, the provisions of any decree respecting maintenance or support may be modified only as to installments accruing subsequent to the motion for modification and only upon a showing of a substantial change of circumstances. The provisions as to property disposition may not be revoked or modified, unless the court finds the existence of conditions that justify the reopening of a judgment under the laws of this state.

Unless otherwise agreed in writing or expressly provided in the decree the obligation to pay future maintenance is terminated upon the death of either party or the remarriage of the party receiving maintenance.

Unless otherwise agreed in writing or expressly provided in the decree, provisions for the support of a child are terminated by emancipation of the child or by the death of the parent obligated to support the child.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 18. (1) A child custody proceeding is commenced in the superior court:

(a) By a parent:

(i) By filing a petition for dissolution of marriage, legal separation or declaration of invalidity; or

(ii) By filing a petition seeking custody of the child in the county where the child is permanently resident or where he is found;
or

(b) By a person other than a parent, by filing a petition

seeking custody of the child in the county where the child is permanently resident or where he is found, but only if the child is not in the physical custody of one of its parents or if the petitioner alleges that neither parent is a suitable custodian.

(2) Notice of a child custody proceeding shall be given to the child's parent, guardian and custodian, who may appear and be heard and may file a responsive pleading. The court may, upon a showing of good cause, permit the intervention of other interested parties.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 19. The court shall determine custody in accordance with the best interests of the child. The court shall consider all relevant factors including:

(1) The wishes of the child's parent or parents as to his custody and as to visitation privileges;

(2) The wishes of the child as to his custodian and as to visitation privileges;

(3) The interaction and interrelationship of the child with his parent or parents, his siblings, and any other person who may significantly affect the child's best interests;

(4) The child's adjustment to his home, school, and community;
and

(5) The mental and physical health of all individuals involved.

The court shall not consider conduct of a proposed guardian that does not affect the welfare of the child.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 20. A party to a custody proceeding may move for a temporary custody order. The motion must be supported by an affidavit as provided in section 27 of this 1973 act. The court may award temporary custody after a hearing, or, if there is no objection, solely on the basis of the affidavits.

If a proceeding for dissolution of marriage, legal separation, or declaration of invalidity is dismissed, any temporary custody order is vacated unless a parent or the child's custodian moves that the proceeding continue as a custody proceeding and the court finds, after a hearing, that the circumstances of the parents and the best interests of the child require that a custody decree be issued.

If a custody proceeding commenced in the absence of a petition for dissolution of marriage, legal separation, or declaration of invalidity, (subsection (1) of section 18 of this 1973 act) is dismissed, any temporary order is vacated.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 21. The court may interview the child in chambers to ascertain the child's wishes as to his custodian and as to visitation privileges. The court may permit counsel to be present at the interview. The court shall cause a record of the interview to be made and to be made part of the record in the case.

The court may seek the advice of professional personnel

whether or not they are employed on a regular basis by the court. The advice given shall be in writing and shall be made available by the court to counsel upon request. Counsel may call for cross-examination any professional personnel consulted by the court.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 22. (1) In contested custody proceedings, and in other custody proceedings if a parent or the child's custodian so requests, the court may order an investigation and report concerning custodian arrangements for the child. The investigation and report may be made by the staff of the juvenile court or other professional social service organization experienced in counseling children and families.

(2) In preparing his report concerning a child, the investigator may consult any person who may have information about the child and his potential custodian arrangements. Upon order of the court, the investigator may refer the child to professional personnel for diagnosis. The investigator may consult with and obtain information from medical, psychiatric, or other expert persons who have served the child in the past without obtaining the consent of the parent or the child's custodian; but the child's consent must be obtained if he has reached the age of twelve, unless the court finds that he lacks mental capacity to consent. If the requirements of subsection (3) of this section are fulfilled, the investigator's report may be received in evidence at the hearing.

(3) The court shall mail the investigator's report to counsel and to any party not represented by counsel at least ten days prior to the hearing unless a shorter time is ordered by the court for good cause shown. The investigator shall make available to counsel and to any party not represented by counsel the investigator's file of underlying data and reports, complete texts of diagnostic reports made to the investigator pursuant to the provisions of subsection (2) of this section, and the names and addresses of all persons whom the investigator has consulted. Any party to the proceeding may call the investigator and any person whom he has consulted for cross-examination. A party may not waive his right of cross-examination prior to the hearing.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 23. Custody proceedings shall receive priority in being set for hearing.

Either party may petition the court to authorize the payment of necessary travel and other expenses incurred by any witness whose presence at the hearing the court deems necessary to determine the best interests of the child.

The court without a jury shall determine questions of law and fact. If it finds that a public hearing may be detrimental to the child's best interests, the court may exclude the public from a custody hearing, but may admit any person who has a direct and

legitimate interest in the work of the court.

If the court finds it necessary to protect the child's welfare that the record of any interview, report, investigation, or testimony in a custody proceeding be kept secret, the court may make an appropriate order sealing the record.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 24. A parent not granted custody of the child is entitled to reasonable visitation rights unless the court finds, after a hearing, that visitation would endanger the child's physical, mental, or emotional health. The court may order visitation rights for any person when visitation may serve the best interest of the child.

The court may modify an order granting or denying visitation rights whenever modification would serve the best interests of the child but the court shall not restrict a parent's visitation rights unless it finds that the visitation would endanger the child's physical, mental, or emotional health.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 25. Except as otherwise agreed by the parties in writing at the time of the custody decree, the custodian may determine the child's upbringing, including his education, health care, and religious training, unless the court after hearing, finds, upon motion by the noncustodial parent, that in the absence of a specific limitation of the custodian's authority, the child's physical, mental, or emotional health would be endangered.

If both parents or all contestants agree to the order, or if the court finds that in the absence of the order the child's physical, mental, or emotional health would be endangered, the court may order an appropriate agency which regularly deals with children to exercise continuing supervision over the case to assure that the custodial or visitation terms of the decree are carried out. Such order may be modified by the court at any time upon petition by either party.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 26. (1) The court shall not modify a prior custody decree unless it finds, upon the basis of facts that have arisen since the prior decree or that were unknown to the court at the time of the prior decree, that a change has occurred in the circumstances of the child or his custodian and that the modification is necessary to serve the best interests of the child. In applying these standards the court shall retain the custodian established by the prior decree unless:

- (a) The custodian agrees to the modification;
- (b) The child has been integrated into the family of the petitioner with the consent of the custodian; or
- (c) The child's present environment is detrimental to his physical, mental, or emotional health and the harm likely to be caused by a change of environment is outweighed by the advantage of a

change to the child.

(2) If the court finds that a motion to modify a prior custody order has been brought in bad faith, the court shall assess the attorney's fees and court costs of the custodian against the petitioner.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 27. A party seeking a temporary custody order or modification of a custody decree shall submit together with his motion, an affidavit setting forth facts supporting the requested order or modification and shall give notice, together with a copy of his affidavit, to other parties to the proceedings, who may file opposing affidavits. The court shall deny the motion unless it finds that adequate cause for hearing the motion is established by the affidavits, in which case it shall set a date for hearing on an order to show cause why the requested order or modification should not be granted.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 28. Hereafter every action or proceeding to change, modify, or enforce any final order, judgment, or decree heretofore or hereafter entered in any dissolution or legal separation or declaration concerning the validity of a marriage in relation to the care, custody, control, support, or maintenance of the minor children of the marriage may be brought in the county where said minor children are then residing, or in the county where the parent or other person who has the care, custody, or control of the said children is then residing.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 29. Whenever either of the parties in a divorce action is, under the law, entitled to a final judgment, but by mistake, negligence, or inadvertence the same has not been signed, filed, or entered, if no appeal has been taken from the interlocutory order or motion for a new trial made, the court, on the motion of either party thereto or upon its own motion, may cause a final judgment to be signed, dated, filed, and entered therein granting the divorce as of the date when the same could have been given or made by the court if applied for. The court may cause such final judgment to be signed, dated, filed, and entered nunc pro tunc as aforesaid, even though a final judgment may have been previously entered where by mistake, negligence or inadvertence the same has not been signed, filed, or entered as soon as such final judgment, the parties to such action shall be deemed to have been restored to the status of single persons as of the date affixed to such judgment, and any marriage of either of such parties subsequent to six months after the granting of the interlocutory order as shown by the minutes of the court, and after the final judgment could have been entered under the law if applied for, shall be valid for all purposes as of the date affixed to such final judgment, upon the filing thereof.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 30. The following acts or parts of acts

are each repealed:

- (1) Section 1, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.010;
- (2) Section 2, chapter 215, Laws of 1949, section 1, chapter 15, Laws of 1965 ex. sess. and RCW 26.08.020;
- (3) Section 3, chapter 215, Laws of 1949, section 1, chapter 28, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. and RCW 26.08.030;
- (4) Section 4, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.040;
- (5) Section 5, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.050;
- (6) Section 6, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.060;
- (7) Section 7, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.070;
- (8) Section 8, chapter 215, Laws of 1949, section 1, chapter 21, Laws of 1972 ex. sess. and RCW 26.08.080;
- (9) Section 9, chapter 215, Laws of 1949, section 70, chapter 81, Laws of 1971 and RCW 26.08.090;
- (10) Section 10, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.100;
- (11) Section 11, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.110;
- (12) Section 12, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.120;
- (13) Section 13, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.130;
- (14) Section 14, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.140;
- (15) Section 15, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.150;
- (16) Section 16, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.160;
- (17) Section 17, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.170;
- (18) Section 18, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.180;
- (19) Section 19, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.190;
- (20) Section 20, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.200;
- (21) Section 21, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.210;
- (22) Section 11, chapter 26, Laws of 1967 and RCW 26.08.215;
- (23) Section 22, chapter 215, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.220;

and

- (24) Section 1, chapter 135, Laws of 1949 and RCW 26.08.230.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 31. Sections 1 through 29 of this 1973 act shall constitute a new chapter in Title 26 RCW.

Passed the House April 12, 1973.

Passed the Senate April 9, 1973.

Approved by the Governor April 24, 1973.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 25, 1973.

CHAPTER 158

[House Bill No. 420]

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

AN ACT Relating to unemployment compensation; amending section 39, chapter 35, Laws of 1945 as amended by section 9, chapter 215,