

- (4) Prevention of abnormally irregular boundaries;
 - (5) Discouragement of multiple incorporations of small cities and encouragement of incorporation of cities in excess of ten thousand population in heavily populated urban areas;
 - (6) Dissolution of inactive special purpose districts;
 - (7) Adjustment of impractical boundaries;
 - (8) Incorporation as cities or towns or annexation to cities or towns of unincorporated areas which are urban in character; and
 - (9) Protection of agricultural lands.
- (10) Provide reasonable assurance that the extension of municipal services and the additional payments to be made by the property owners of the area to be annexed in the form of taxes (~~(bear a reasonable relation))~~ will remain reasonably equal to the value of the additional municipal services to be received during a period of ten years following the effective date of the proposed annexation. This objective shall apply only to cities with a population of 400,000 or more which initiates a resolution for annexation proceedings.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

Passed the House April 20, 1981.

Passed the Senate April 15, 1981.

Approved by the Governor May 19, 1981.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 19, 1981.

CHAPTER 333

[House Bill No. 530]

DEATH BENEFITS—INSURANCE—SALARIES, WAGES

AN ACT Relating to death benefits; amending section .24.16, chapter 79, Laws of 1947 as last amended by section 9, chapter 199, Laws of 1979 ex. sess. and RCW 48.24.160; and amending section 2, chapter 139, Laws of 1939 as last amended by section 42, chapter 117, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 49.48.120.

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

Section 1. Section .24.16, chapter 79, Laws of 1947 as last amended by section 9, chapter 199, Laws of 1979 ex. sess. and RCW 48.24.160 are each amended to read as follows:

There shall be a provision that any sum becoming due by reason of the death of the individual insured shall be payable to the beneficiary designated by such individual, subject to the provisions of the policy in the event there is no designated beneficiary, as to all or any part of such sum, living at the death of the individual insured and subject to any right reserved by the insurer in the policy and set forth in the certificate to pay at its option a

part of such sum not exceeding ten percent of such amount or one thousand dollars, whichever is greater, to any person appearing to the insurer to be equitably entitled thereto by reason of having incurred funeral or other expenses incident to the last illness or death of the individual insured.

Sec. 2. Section 2, chapter 139, Laws of 1939 as last amended by section 42, chapter 117, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 49.48.120 are each amended to read as follows:

If at the time of the death of any person, his employer is indebted to him for work, labor, and services performed, and no executor or administrator of his estate has been appointed, such employer shall upon the request of the surviving spouse forthwith pay said indebtedness, in such an amount as may be due not exceeding the sum of ~~((one))~~ two thousand five hundred dollars, to the said surviving spouse or if the decedent leaves no surviving spouse, then to the child or children, or if no children, then to the father or mother of said decedent: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That if by virtue of a community property agreement between the decedent and the surviving spouse, which meets the requirements of RCW 26.16.120, the right to such indebtedness became the sole property of the surviving spouse upon the death of the decedent, the employer shall pay to the surviving spouse the total of such indebtedness or that portion which is governed by the community property agreement upon presentation of said agreement accompanied by affidavit of the surviving spouse stating that such agreement was executed in good faith between the parties thereto and had not been rescinded by the parties prior to the death of the decedent: PROVIDED FURTHER, That in all cases the employer shall require proof of claimant's relationship to decedent by affidavit, and shall require claimant to acknowledge receipt of such payment in writing. Any payments made by an employer pursuant to the provisions of RCW 49.48.115 and 49.48.120 shall operate as a full and complete discharge of the employer's indebtedness to the extent of said payment, and no employer shall thereafter be liable therefor to the decedent's estate, or the decedent's executor or administrator thereafter appointed. The employer may also pay the indebtedness upon presentation of an affidavit as provided in RCW 11.62.010.

Passed the House April 2, 1981.

Passed the Senate April 21, 1981.

Approved by the Governor May 19, 1981.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 19, 1981.