CHAPTER 65

[House Bill No. 625]

SUPERIOR COURTS——ADDITIONAL JUDICIAL POSITIONS

AN ACT Relating to superior court judges; amending section 6, chapter 125, Laws of 1951 as last amended by section 3, chapter 202, Laws of 1979 ex. sess. and RCW 2.08.064; amending section 7, chapter 125, Laws of 1951 as last amended by section 4, chapter 202, Laws of 1979 ex. sess. and RCW 2.08.065; and creating a new section.

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

Section 1. Section 6, chapter 125, Laws of 1951 as last amended by section 3, chapter 202, Laws of 1979 ex. sess. and RCW 2.08.064 are each amended to read as follows:

There shall be in the counties of Benton and Franklin jointly, ((four)) five judges of the superior court; in the counties of Clallam and Jefferson jointly, two judges of the superior court; in the county of Snohomish eight judges of the superior court; in the counties of Asotin, Columbia and Garfield jointly, one judge of the superior court; in the county of Cowlitz, three judges of the superior court((: PROVIDED, That the additional office herein created for the county of Cowlitz shall be effective January 1, 1981)); in the counties of Klickitat and Skamania jointly, one judge of the superior court.

Sec. 2. Section 7, chapter 125, Laws of 1951 as last amended by section 4, chapter 202, Laws of 1979 ex. sess. and RCW 2.08.065 are each amended to read as follows:

There shall be in the county of Grant, two judges of the superior court; in the ((counties)) county of ((Ferry and)) Okanogan ((jointly)), one judge of the superior court; in the counties of Mason and Thurston jointly, five judges of the superior court; in the counties of Pacific and Wahkiakum jointly, one judge of the superior court; in the counties of <u>Ferry</u>, Pend Oreille, and Stevens jointly, ((one)) <u>two</u> judges of the superior court; and in the counties of San Juan and Island jointly, two judges of the superior court.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 3. The additional judicial positions created by this 1981 act in the joint Benton and Franklin judicial district and the joint Ferry, Stevens, and Pend Oreille judicial district shall be effective only if, prior to the effective date of this act, each county in the respective judicial districts through its duly constituted legislative authority documents its approval of the additional positions and its agreement that it and the other counties comprising the judicial district will pay out of county funds, without reimbursement from the state, the same portion of expenses of such additional judicial positions which the judicial district as a whole provides for positions existing prior to the effective date of this act. The amount of funds to be paid by each county is to be determined among the counties comprising each judicial district.

Passed the House April 16, 1981. Passed the Senate April 14, 1981. Approved by the Governor April 25, 1981. Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 25, 1981.

CHAPTER 66

[House Bill No. 664] CITIES AND TOWNS—ANNEXATION—TAX EXEMPT PROPERTY

AN ACT Relating to the direct petition method of annexation; amending section 35.13.130, chapter 7, Laws of 1965 as last amended by section 8, chapter 220, Laws of 1975 1st ex. sess. and RCW 35.13.130; and declaring an emergency.

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

Section 1. Section 35.13.130, chapter 7, Laws of 1965 as last amended by section 8, chapter 220, Laws of 1975 1st ex. sess. and RCW 35.13.130 are each amended to read as follows:

A petition for annexation of an area contiguous to a city or town may be made in writing addressed to and filed with the legislative body of the municipality to which annexation is desired. Except where all the property sought to be annexed is property of a school district, and the school directors thereof file the petition for annexation as in RCW 28A.58.044 authorized, the petition must be signed by the owners of not less than seventy-five percent in value((z)) according to the assessed valuation for general taxation of the property for which annexation is petitioned: PROVIDED, That in cities and towns with populations greater than one hundred sixty thousand located east of the Cascade mountains, the owner of tax exempt property may sign an annexation petition and have the tax exempt property annexed into the city or town, but the value of the tax exempt property shall not be used in calculating the sufficiency of the required property owner signatures unless only tax exempt property is proposed to be annexed into the city or town. The petition shall set forth a description of the property according to government legal subdivisions or legal plats which is in compliance with RCW 35.02.170, and shall be accompanied by a plat which outlines the boundaries of the property sought to be annexed. If the legislative body has required the assumption of all or of any portion of city or town indebtedness by the area annexed, and/or the adoption of a comprehensive plan for the area to be annexed, these facts, together with a quotation of the minute entry of such requirement or requirements shall be set forth in the petition.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 2. If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or