

Introduced: 1/25/85
Referred: Judiciary and
Finance

BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
(For the Chief Justice of
the Alaska Supreme Court)

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 118

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the small claims jurisdictional
7 limitation and the duties of magistrates; and
8 providing for an effective date."

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

10 * Section 1. AS 22.15.040 is amended to read:

11 Sec. 22.15.040. SMALL CLAIMS. When a claim for relief does not
12 exceed \$5,000 [\$2,000] exclusive of costs, interest and attorney fees,
13 and request is so made, the district judge or magistrate shall hear
14 the action as a small claim unless important or unusual points of law
15 are involved. The supreme court shall prescribe the procedural rules
16 and standard forms to assure simplicity and the expeditious handling
17 of small claims.

18 * Sec. 2. AS 22.15.120 is amended to read:

19 Sec. 22.15.120. LIMITATIONS ON PROCEEDINGS WHICH MAGISTRATE MAY
20 HEAR. A magistrate shall preside only in cases and proceedings under
21 AS 22.15.040, 22.15.100, and 22.15.110, and as follows,

22 (1) for the recovery of money or damages only when the
23 amount claimed, exclusive of costs, interest, and attorney fees, does
24 not exceed \$5,000 [\$1,000];

25 (2) for the recovery of specific personal property when the
26 value of the property claimed and the damages for the detention do not
27 exceed \$5,000 [\$1,000];

28 (3) for the recovery of a penalty or forfeiture, whether
29 given by statute or arising out of contract, not exceeding \$5,000

1 [\$1,000];

2 (4) to give judgment without action upon the confession of
3 the defendant for any of the cases specified in this section, except
4 for a penalty or forfeiture imposed by statute;

5 (5) to give judgment of conviction upon a plea of guilty by
6 the defendant in a criminal proceeding within the jurisdiction of the
7 district court;

8 (6) to hear, try, and enter judgments in all cases
9 involving misdemeanors, if the defendant consents in writing that the
10 magistrate may try the case;

11 (7) to hear, try and enter judgments in all cases involving
12 infractions under AS 28 and violations of ordinances of political
13 subdivisions. [;

14 (8) REPEALED]

15 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.-
16 10.070(c).