
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1455

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2021 Regular Session

By House Labor & Workplace Standards (originally sponsored by Representatives Mosbrucker, Boehnke, Young, Sutherland, and Jacobsen)

READ FIRST TIME 02/15/21.

1 AN ACT Relating to the use of social security numbers by the
2 department of labor and industries and the employment security
3 department; adding a new section to chapter 43.22 RCW; and adding a
4 new section to chapter 50.12 RCW.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.22
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 (1) For the purposes of preventing fraud and protecting personal
9 privacy, the department shall examine its current practices in which
10 it discloses the full social security numbers of persons in its
11 correspondence with nongovernmental third parties.

12 (2) If the disclosure of full social security numbers in its
13 correspondence with nongovernmental third parties is not required for
14 compliance with any state or federal law, the department shall:

15 (a) Institute procedures to replace the use of full social
16 security numbers with other forms of personal identifiers in its
17 correspondence with nongovernmental third parties; and

18 (b) By July 1, 2023, cease disclosing the full social security
19 numbers of persons in its correspondence with nongovernmental third
20 parties.

1 (3) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
2 section:

3 (a) "Correspondence" means written communications, emails, or
4 other similar communications. "Correspondence" does not include
5 financial transactions or communications sent via secured or
6 encrypted methods.

7 (b) "Nongovernmental third party" means an individual,
8 corporation, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, association,
9 joint venture, or other legal commercial entity. The term does not
10 include a government or governmental subdivision, agency, or
11 instrumentality.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 50.12
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 (1) For the purposes of preventing fraud and protecting personal
15 privacy, the employment security department shall examine its current
16 practices in which it discloses the full social security numbers of
17 persons in its correspondence with nongovernmental third parties.

18 (2) If the disclosure of full social security numbers in its
19 correspondence with nongovernmental third parties is not required by
20 any state or federal law, the employment security department shall:

21 (a) Institute procedures to replace the use of full social
22 security numbers with other forms of personal identifiers in its
23 correspondence with nongovernmental third parties; and

24 (b) By July 1, 2023, cease disclosing the full social security
25 numbers of persons in its correspondence with nongovernmental third
26 parties.

27 (3) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
28 section:

29 (a) "Correspondence" means letters, emails, or other similar
30 communications. "Correspondence" does not include financial
31 transactions or communications sent via secured or encrypted methods.

32 (b) "Nongovernmental third party" means an individual,
33 corporation, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, association,
34 joint venture, or other legal commercial entity. The term does not
35 include a government or governmental subdivision, agency,
36 instrumentality, or private persons or organizations covered by RCW
37 50.13.080.

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