

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SENATE BILL 6429

Chapter 334, Laws of 2002

57th Legislature
2002 Regular Session

CIVIL ACTIONS--SYMPATHETIC EXPRESSIONS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 6/13/02

Passed by the Senate February 13, 2002
YEAS 46 NAYS 0

BRAD OWEN

President of the Senate

Passed by the House March 6, 2002
YEAS 90 NAYS 3

FRANK CHOPP

**Speaker of the
House of Representatives**

CERTIFICATE

I, Tony M. Cook, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SENATE BILL 6429** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

TONY M. COOK

Secretary

Approved April 3, 2002

FILED

April 3, 2002 - 10:42 a.m.

GARY LOCKE

Governor of the State of Washington

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SENATE BILL 6429

Passed Legislature - 2002 Regular Session

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2002 Regular Session

By Senators B. Sheldon, Johnson, Kline, Costa, McCaslin, Gardner, Long and Winsley; by request of Governor Locke and Attorney General

Read first time 01/17/2002. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to expressions of benevolence, sympathy, and
2 regret; and adding a new chapter to Title 5 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The portion of statements, writings, or
5 benevolent gestures expressing sympathy or a general sense of
6 benevolence relating to the pain, suffering, or death of a person
7 involved in an accident, and made to that person or to the family of
8 that person, shall be inadmissible as evidence in a civil action. A
9 statement of fault, however, which is part of, or in addition to, any
10 of the above shall not be made inadmissible by this section.

11 (2) For purposes of this section:

12 (a) "Accident" means an occurrence resulting in injury or death to
13 one or more persons that is not the result of willful action by a
14 party.

15 (b) "Benevolent gestures" means actions that convey a sense of
16 compassion or commiseration emanating from humane impulses.

17 (c) "Family" means the spouse, parent, grandparent, stepmother,
18 stepfather, child, grandchild, brother, sister, half brother, half

1 sister, adopted child of a parent, or spouse's parents of an injured
2 party.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Section 1 of this act constitutes a new
4 chapter in Title 5 RCW.

Passed the Senate February 13, 2002.

Passed the House March 6, 2002.

Approved by the Governor April 3, 2002.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 3, 2002.