
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8028

State of Washington 57th Legislature

2002 Regular Session

By Senators Stevens, Benton, Johnson, Morton, Honeyford, Rossi, Long, Hochstatter, Swecker, Roach and Kline

Read first time 01/16/2002. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, A provision in federal law that took effect October 1,
9 2000, requires states to gather Social Security Numbers from applicants
10 seeking or renewing drivers' licenses as part of the 1997 welfare
11 reform act, designed to help recover overdue child support from
12 obligated parents; and

13 WHEREAS, The state of Michigan has sued the federal government in
14 federal court to block this law that forces all states to collect
15 Social Security Numbers from tens of millions of motorists, and which
16 is an uncalled for invasion of privacy; and

17 WHEREAS, Michigan's suit argues that the law violates the United
18 States constitutional guarantee against invasion of privacy, represents
19 an unfunded federal mandate, and violates the tenth amendment to the
20 Constitution by requiring states to administer a federal regulatory
21 program; and

1 WHEREAS, The Washington State Legislature complied with the federal
2 requirements, but directed the department of social and health services
3 to seek a waiver from the federal government, and that waiver was
4 denied; and

5 WHEREAS, Noncompliance could cost the state approximately one
6 billion dollars in federal funding; and

7 WHEREAS, The states already do a great job in collecting support
8 payments, and creating another data base with Social Security Numbers
9 can add to the growing crime of identity theft; and

10 WHEREAS, It is important that all states, whether or not they are
11 currently complying with the federal law requiring states to gather
12 Social Security Numbers from applicants seeking or renewing drivers'
13 licenses, take a stand against the federal government imposing
14 unnecessary and overreaching regulations on the states;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the United
16 States Congress guarantee the constitutional rights of privacy of
17 American citizens, eliminate unfunded federal mandates, and protect
18 federalism by eliminating the Social Security Number collection
19 requirements.

20 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
21 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United
22 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
23 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of
24 Washington.

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