

SHB 2527 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on State Government, Tribal Relations & Elections

ADOPTED 03/03/2020

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.62
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1) It is the intent of the legislature to affirm that every
6 Washingtonian has the right and obligation to participate in the
7 federal decennial census freely and without fear of fraud,
8 intimidation, or harm, and to inform the public of these rights.

9 (2) The legislature affirms the rights of Washingtonians to all
10 of the following, to be known as the Washington census bill of rights
11 and responsibilities:

12 (a) To participate in the federal decennial census free of threat
13 or intimidation;

14 (b) To the confidentiality of the information provided in the
15 census form, as provided by federal law;

16 (c) To respond to the census by means made available to the
17 respondent, either by phone, by mail, online, or in person;

18 (d) To request language assistance in accordance with federal
19 law; and

20 (e) To verify the identity of a census worker.

21 (3) The secretary of state shall translate the Washington census
22 bill of rights and responsibilities into languages other than
23 English, consistent with the federal voting rights act of 1965, 52
24 U.S.C. Sec. 10503.

25 (4) The office of financial management shall make the Washington
26 census bill of rights and responsibilities available on its internet
27 web site and available for inclusion on city and county census
28 internet web sites and census questionnaire assistance center
29 internet web sites.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 9A.60
31 RCW to read as follows:

1 (1) A person is guilty of impersonating a census taker if the
2 person falsely represents that he or she is a census taker with the
3 intent to:

4 (a) Interfere with the operation of the census;

5 (b) Obtain information; or

6 (c) Obtain consent to enter a private dwelling.

7 (2) Impersonating a census taker is a gross misdemeanor.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 19.86
9 RCW to read as follows:

10 Mailing materials with the intent to deceive a person into
11 believing that the material is an official census communication,
12 interfere with the operation of the census, or discourage a person
13 from participating in the census constitutes an unfair or deceptive
14 practice under this chapter.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is necessary for the immediate
16 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of
17 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes
18 effect immediately."

SHB 2527 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on State Government, Tribal Relations & Elections

ADOPTED 03/03/2020

19 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "census;" strike the
20 remainder of the title and insert "adding a new section to chapter
21 43.62 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 9A.60 RCW; adding a new
22 section to chapter 19.86 RCW; prescribing penalties; and declaring an
23 emergency."

EFFECT: Makes mailing materials with the intent to deceive a
person into believing the material is an official census
communication, interfere with census operations, or discourage census
participation an unfair trade practice.

--- END ---