
SENATE BILL 6179

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By Senators MacEwen, Keiser, and Nguyen

Read first time 01/11/24. Referred to Committee on Labor & Commerce.

1 AN ACT Relating to the use of biometric age verification by
2 liquor licensees; and amending RCW 66.20.170.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 66.20.170 and 2016 c 235 s 7 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) A card of identification may for the purpose of this title
7 and for the purpose of procuring liquor, be accepted (~~as an~~
8 ~~identification card~~) by any licensee (~~and~~) as evidence of legal
9 age of the person presenting such card, provided the licensee
10 complies with the conditions and procedures prescribed herein and
11 such regulations as may be made by the board.

12 (2)(a) A biometric age verification system may for the purpose of
13 this title and for the purpose of procuring liquor, be relied upon by
14 any licensee as evidence of legal age of the person using the
15 biometric age verification system, provided the licensee complies
16 with the conditions and procedures prescribed herein and such
17 regulations as may be made by the board.

18 (b) A "biometric age verification system" must:

19 (i) Use a biometric system as defined in RCW 19.375.010, which
20 includes biometric identifiers including but not limited to retina or
21 iris scan, fingerprint, voiceprint, DNA, or scan of hand or face

1 geometry, and otherwise comply with the provisions of chapter 19.375
2 RCW;
3 (ii) Verify the validity of a card of identification and the
4 identity of the holder of such card of identification through an
5 electronic authentication process or set of processes;
6 (iii) Verify the person enrolling in the biometric system is the
7 same as the card of identification holder and store the data from the
8 card of identification in the biometric system;
9 (iv) Provide an indication that the card of identification holder
10 meets the age eligibility requirement upon future scans of the
11 biometric characteristic used in the biometric system; and
12 (v) Maintain records as established by the board.
13 (c) Use of a biometric age verification system is a mitigating
14 circumstance the board may consider to impose a different penalty
15 than the standard penalties established by the board.

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