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**SENATE BILL 5021**

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**State of Washington**

**69th Legislature**

**2025 Regular Session**

**By** Senator Wagoner

Prefiled 12/10/24.

1 AN ACT Relating to retention of court exhibits; and amending RCW  
2 36.23.070.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 36.23.070 and 1981 c 154 s 1 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 A county clerk may at any time more than (~~six~~) five years after  
7 the entry of final judgment in any action apply to the superior court  
8 for an authorizing order and, upon such order being signed and  
9 entered, turn such exhibits of possible value over to the sheriff for  
10 disposal in accordance with the provisions of chapter 63.40 RCW, and  
11 destroy any other exhibits, unopened depositions, and reporters'  
12 notes which have theretofore been filed in such cause: PROVIDED, That  
13 reporters' notes in criminal cases must be preserved for at least  
14 (~~fifteen~~) 15 years: PROVIDED FURTHER, That any exhibits which are  
15 deemed to possess historical value may be directed to be delivered by  
16 the clerk to libraries or historical societies.

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