

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2527**

66th Legislature  
2020 Regular Session

Passed by the House March 7, 2020  
Yeas 68 Nays 29

---

**Speaker of the House of  
Representatives**

Passed by the Senate March 3, 2020  
Yeas 29 Nays 20

---

**President of the Senate**

Approved

---

**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2527** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

---

**Chief Clerk**

FILED

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

---

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2527**

---

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2020 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      66th Legislature                      2020 Regular Session**

**By** House State Government & Tribal Relations (originally sponsored by Representatives Ramos, Kilduff, Gregerson, Valdez, Slatter, Ortiz-Self, Tarleton, Davis, Doglio, Callan, Ramel, Pollet, Hudgins, Ormsby, and Santos)

READ FIRST TIME 01/30/20.

1            AN ACT Relating to protecting the rights of Washingtonians during  
2 the United States census; adding a new section to chapter 43.62 RCW;  
3 adding a new section to chapter 9A.60 RCW; adding a new section to  
4 chapter 19.86 RCW; prescribing penalties; and declaring an emergency.

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

6            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    A new section is added to chapter 43.62  
7 RCW to read as follows:

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

12            (2) The legislature affirms the rights of Washingtonians to all  
13 of the following, to be known as the Washington census bill of rights  
14 and responsibilities:

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

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

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

1 (d) To request language assistance in accordance with federal  
2 law; and

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

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

8 (4) The office of financial management shall make the Washington  
9 census bill of rights and responsibilities available on its internet  
10 web site and available for inclusion on city and county census  
11 internet web sites and census questionnaire assistance center  
12 internet web sites.

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

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

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

19 (b) Obtain information; or

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

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

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

24 Mailing materials with the intent to deceive a person into  
25 believing that the material is an official census communication,  
26 interfere with the operation of the census, or discourage a person  
27 from participating in the census constitutes an unfair or deceptive  
28 practice under this chapter.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
30 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of  
31 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes  
32 effect immediately.

--- END ---