

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2527

Chapter 34, Laws of 2020

66th Legislature
2020 Regular Session

UNITED STATES CENSUS--RIGHTS

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 18, 2020

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

LAURIE JINKINS

Speaker of the House of Representatives

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

CYRUS HABIB

President of the Senate

Approved March 18, 2020 10:37 AM

JAY INSLEE

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.

BERNARD DEAN

Chief Clerk

FILED

March 18, 2020

**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.

Passed by the House March 7, 2020.

Passed by the Senate March 3, 2020.

Approved by the Governor March 18, 2020.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 18, 2020.

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