S-3935.1

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**SENATE BILL 6179**

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**State of Washington 68th Legislature 2024 Regular Session**

**By** Senators MacEwen, Keiser, and Nguyen

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

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

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

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

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

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

(i) Use a biometric system as defined in RCW 19.375.010, which includes biometric identifiers including but not limited to retina or iris scan, fingerprint, voiceprint, DNA, or scan of hand or face geometry, and otherwise comply with the provisions of chapter 19.375 RCW;

(ii) Verify the validity of a card of identification and the identity of the holder of such card of identification through an electronic authentication process or set of processes;

(iii) Verify the person enrolling in the biometric system is the same as the card of identification holder and store the data from the card of identification in the biometric system;

(iv) Provide an indication that the card of identification holder meets the age eligibility requirement upon future scans of the biometric characteristic used in the biometric system; and

(v) Maintain records as established by the board.

(c) Use of a biometric age verification system is a mitigating circumstance the board may consider to impose a different penalty than the standard penalties established by the board.

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