
SENATE BILL 5381

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Senators Braun, Pedersen, Boehnke, Conway, Dhingra, Hunt, Keiser, King, Kuderer, Nguyen, Randall, Saldaña, Warnick, C. Wilson, and J. Wilson

Read first time 01/16/23. Referred to Committee on State Government & Elections.

1 AN ACT Relating to letters of recommendation or congratulations
2 sent by legislators; and adding a new section to chapter 42.52 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 42.52
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 It is not a violation of this chapter for a member to send by
7 mail or email:

8 (1) A letter of recommendation on behalf of an individual
9 constituent if the constituent has requested the letter;

10 (2) A congratulatory letter to an individual constituent who has
11 received an award or honor of extraordinary distinction of a type
12 that is sufficiently infrequent to be noteworthy to a reasonable
13 person including, but not limited to: (a) An international or
14 national award such as the Nobel prize or the Pulitzer prize; (b) a
15 state award such as Washington scholar; (c) an Eagle Scout award; or
16 (d) a Medal of Honor; or

17 (3) Except when under a mailing restriction as provided in RCW
18 42.52.185, a congratulatory letter to an individual constituent who

1 has received an honor or award if the individual or a third party on
2 the individual's behalf has requested the letter.

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