
SENATE BILL 6060

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By Senators Nguyen, Hasegawa, Keiser, Saldaña, Stanford, Valdez, and C. Wilson

Read first time 01/09/24. Referred to Committee on Labor & Commerce.

1 AN ACT Relating to the acceptance of electronic signatures by the
2 public employment relations commission for new organizing petitions;
3 amending RCW 41.56.060; and adding a new section to chapter 41.58
4 RCW.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 41.58
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 (1) For any new organizing petition to form a new bargaining unit
9 of currently unrepresented workers or to add unrepresented workers to
10 an existing bargaining unit, regardless of whether the election is by
11 mail ballot or cross-check, the public employment relations
12 commission must accept electronic signatures, subject to the
13 requirements set forth in this section and by rules adopted by the
14 commission.

15 (2) At a minimum, electronic signature submissions must include:

16 (a) The name of the signer;

17 (b) The phone number, email address, or social media account of
18 the signer;

19 (c) The exact authorization language to which the signer assents;

20 (d) The date of submission of the electronic signature; and

21 (e) The name of the signer's employer.

1 (3) The petitioning party must provide a declaration that:

2 (a) Identifies the technology used to obtain and verify the
3 signature;

4 (b) Provides the methods used to ensure the authenticity of the
5 signature; and

6 (c) Confirms the information transmitted to the signer was the
7 same information to which the signer assented.

8 (4) The public employment relations commission must adopt rules
9 to implement this section.

10 **Sec. 2.** RCW 41.56.060 and 2019 c 230 s 7 are each amended to
11 read as follows:

12 (1) The commission, after hearing upon reasonable notice, shall
13 decide in each application for certification as an exclusive
14 bargaining representative, the unit appropriate for the purpose of
15 collective bargaining. In determining, modifying, or combining the
16 bargaining unit, the commission shall consider the duties, skills,
17 and working conditions of the public employees; the history of
18 collective bargaining by the public employees and their bargaining
19 representatives; the extent of organization among the public
20 employees; and the desire of the public employees. The commission
21 shall determine the bargaining representative by: (a) Examination of
22 organization membership rolls; or (b) ~~((comparison of signatures on
23 organization bargaining authorization cards, as provided under RCW
24 41.56.095; or (c))~~) conducting an election ~~((specifically therefor))~~
25 via mail ballot as provided under RCW 41.56.070 or via cross-check as
26 provided under RCW 41.56.095.

27 (2) For classified employees of school districts and educational
28 service districts:

29 (a) Appropriate bargaining units existing on July 24, 2005, may
30 not be divided into more than one unit without the agreement of the
31 public employer and the certified bargaining representative of the
32 unit; and

33 (b) In making bargaining unit determinations under this section,
34 the commission must consider, in addition to the factors listed in
35 subsection (1) of this section, the avoidance of excessive
36 fragmentation.

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