

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**HOUSE BILL 1259**

Chapter 142, Laws of 2023

(partial veto)

68th Legislature  
2023 Regular Session

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE—CHIEF OF STAFF SIGNING AUTHORITY

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 23, 2023

Passed by the House February 8, 2023  
Yeas 96 Nays 0

LAURIE JINKINS

**Speaker of the House of  
Representatives**

Passed by the Senate April 5, 2023  
Yeas 48 Nays 0

DENNY HECK

**President of the Senate**

Approved April 20, 2023 2:37 PM with  
the exception of section 2, which is  
vetoed.

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 **HOUSE  
BILL 1259** as passed by the House of  
Representatives and the Senate on  
the dates hereon set forth.

BERNARD DEAN

**Chief Clerk**

FILED

April 21, 2023

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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HOUSE BILL 1259

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Passed Legislature - 2023 Regular Session

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Representatives Abbarno, Stearns, and Reeves; by request of Secretary of State

Read first time 01/12/23. Referred to Committee on State Government & Tribal Relations.

1 AN ACT Relating to updating the executive team of the office of  
2 the secretary of state by adding signing authority to the chief of  
3 staff position; amending RCW 43.07.020; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.07.020 and 2009 c 549 s 5025 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 The secretary of state may have one assistant secretary of state  
8 ~~((and))~~, one deputy secretary of state, and one chief of staff each  
9 of whom shall have signing authority and be appointed by ~~((him or~~  
10 ~~her))~~ the secretary in writing, and continue ~~((during his or her))~~  
11 serving at the pleasure of the secretary. The assistant secretary of  
12 state ~~((and))~~, deputy secretary of state, and chief of staff shall  
13 have the power to perform any act or duty relating to the secretary  
14 of state's office, that the secretary of state has, and the secretary  
15 of state shall be responsible for the acts of said assistant ~~((and))~~,  
16 deputy, and chief of staff.

17 ***\*NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. This act is necessary for the immediate***  
18 ***preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of***  
19 ***the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes***  
20 ***effect immediately.***

**\*Sec. 2 was vetoed. See message at end of chapter.**

Passed by the House February 8, 2023.

Passed by the Senate April 5, 2023.

Approved by the Governor April 20, 2023, with the exception of certain items that were vetoed.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 21, 2023.

Note: Governor's explanation of partial veto is as follows:

"I am returning herewith, without my approval as to Section 2, House Bill No. 1259 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to updating the executive team of the office of the secretary of state by adding signing authority to the chief of staff position."

This bill authorizes the Secretary of State's chief of staff to have signing authority and the power to act on behalf of the Office of the Secretary of State, expanding the number of specified senior staff who have this authority from two to three. Section 2 is an emergency clause, making this bill effective immediately. However, in light of the existing staff who have signing authority for the Office, this bill is not necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of state government.

For these reasons I have vetoed Section 2 of House Bill No. 1259.

With the exception of Section 2, House Bill No. 1259 is approved."

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