

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6060

Chapter 98, Laws of 2024

68th Legislature
2024 Regular Session

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION—ORGANIZING PETITIONS—
ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 6, 2024

Passed by the Senate February 6, 2024
Yeas 31 Nays 18

DENNY HECK

President of the Senate

Passed by the House February 27, 2024
Yeas 92 Nays 4

LAURIE JINKINS

**Speaker of the House of
Representatives**

Approved March 14, 2024 11:37 AM

JAY INSLEE

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6060** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

SARAH BANNISTER

Secretary

FILED

March 14, 2024

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6060

Passed Legislature - 2024 Regular Session

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By Senate Labor & Commerce (originally sponsored by Senators Nguyen, Hasegawa, Keiser, Saldaña, Stanford, Valdez, and C. Wilson)

READ FIRST TIME 01/24/24.

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 as provided under RCW 41.56.070 or 41.56.095.

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

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

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

Passed by the Senate February 6, 2024.
Passed by the House February 27, 2024.
Approved by the Governor March 14, 2024.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 14, 2024.

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