

---

HOUSE BILL 2165

---

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2026 Regular Session

**By** Representatives Obras, Farivar, Ryu, Parshley, Kloba, Ramel, Simmons, Peterson, Berry, Salahuddin, Tharinger, Rule, Reed, Leavitt, Lekanoff, Mena, Scott, Santos, Cortes, Zahn, Callan, Nance, Street, Wylie, Duerr, Thomas, Taylor, Stonier, Gregerson, Ormsby, Berg, Reeves, Thai, Macri, Fosse, Hill, Davis, Pollet, Donaghy, and Bernbaum; by request of Governor Ferguson

Prefiled 12/17/25. Read first time 01/12/26. Referred to Committee on Community Safety.

1 AN ACT Relating to false identification as a peace officer;  
2 adding a new section to chapter 9A.60 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 9A.60  
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) A person is guilty of false identification as a peace officer  
7 if the person:

8 (a)(i) Makes, provides to another person, or possesses a card,  
9 document, badge, insignia, shoulder emblem, or other item, including  
10 a vehicle, bearing an insignia of a law enforcement agency that  
11 identifies the person as a peace officer or a reserve law enforcement  
12 officer; and

13 (ii) The person who makes, provides, or possesses the item  
14 bearing the insignia knows that the person so identified by the item  
15 is not commissioned as a peace officer or reserve law enforcement  
16 officer as indicated on the item;

17 (b) Intentionally or knowingly misrepresents an object, including  
18 a vehicle, as property belonging to a law enforcement agency. For  
19 purposes of this subsection, intentionally or knowingly  
20 misrepresenting an object as property belonging to a law enforcement  
21 agency includes intentionally or knowingly displaying an item bearing

1 an insignia of a law enforcement agency in a manner that would lead a  
2 reasonable person to interpret the item as property belonging to a  
3 law enforcement agency.

4 (2) False identification as a peace officer is a gross  
5 misdemeanor.

6 (3) It is a defense to prosecution under this section that:

7 (a) The card, document, badge, insignia, shoulder emblem, or  
8 other item bearing an insignia of a law enforcement agency clearly  
9 identifies the person as an honorary peace officer or reserve law  
10 enforcement officer, or as a member of a posse; or

11 (b) The person identified as a peace officer or reserve law  
12 enforcement officer by the item bearing the insignia was commissioned  
13 in that capacity when the item was made.

14 (4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the  
15 depiction of law enforcement for matters of cultural, historical,  
16 political, religious, educational, newsworthy, or public interest  
17 including, but not limited to, use in works of art, commentary,  
18 satire, and parody protected by the Washington state Constitution or  
19 the United States Constitution.

20 (5) For purposes of this section, "reserve officer" has the same  
21 meaning as provided in RCW 10.93.020.

22 (6) For purposes of this section, an item bearing an insignia of  
23 a law enforcement agency includes an item that contains the word  
24 "police," "sheriff," "constable," "marshal," "trooper," or the title  
25 of an agency of the federal government employing federal peace  
26 officers.

27 (7) For purposes of this section, "federal peace officer" means  
28 any employee or agent of the United States government who has the  
29 authority to carry firearms and make warrantless arrests and whose  
30 duties involve the enforcement of the laws of the United States.

--- END ---