
SENATE BILL 5926

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2026 Regular Session

By Senators Wellman, Nobles, and C. Wilson

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1 AN ACT Relating to expanding the public records exemption for
2 personal information of family home child care providers to all
3 licensed or certified child care providers; amending RCW 42.56.640;
4 adding a new section to chapter 42.56 RCW; adding a new section to
5 chapter 43.216 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that child care
8 providers care for and serve some of Washington's most vulnerable
9 populations. Existing privacy protections under RCW 42.56.640 apply
10 only to licensed family home child care providers because their
11 business operates within their private residence. However, the
12 legislature further finds that child care providers working in
13 licensed centers and other nonresidential care settings also face
14 safety risks, harassment, doxxing, and targeted retaliation when
15 their home addresses, personal phone numbers, photographs, and other
16 identifying information are released publicly.

17 The legislature intends to extend the public records act privacy
18 protections currently provided to licensed family home child care
19 providers to all licensed child care providers, regardless of
20 setting, to ensure that individuals who care for young children are

1 protected from harm, intimidation, and threats to their personal
2 safety.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 42.56
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1) The following personal information of any individual or
6 entity licensed or certified by the department of children, youth,
7 and families to provide child care is exempt from disclosure under
8 this chapter:

- 9 (a) Names;
- 10 (b) Home address;
- 11 (c) Global positioning system (GPS) coordinates;
- 12 (d) Personal telephone number;
- 13 (e) Personal email address;
- 14 (f) Date of birth;
- 15 (g) Social security number or taxpayer identification number;
- 16 (h) Driver's license number;
- 17 (i) Personal bank account or direct deposit information;
- 18 (j) Emergency contact information;
- 19 (k) Any photograph of the individual that is not publicly
20 distributed by the provider; and
- 21 (l) Any other personally identifying information.

22 (2) This exemption applies to all individuals providing child
23 care:

- 24 (a) In a licensed or certified family home provider as defined in
25 RCW 43.216.010;
- 26 (b) In a licensed or certified child care center as defined in
27 RCW 43.216.010;
- 28 (c) In a school-age or out-of-school-time care setting; and
- 29 (d) In any other location licensed or certified by the department
30 of children, youth, and families to provide child care.

31 (3) Nothing in this section restricts the disclosure of business
32 addresses, program capacity, licensing status, inspection results, or
33 public safety findings required by state or federal law.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.216
35 RCW to read as follows:

36 The department shall update privacy guidance, licensing
37 communication materials, and mandatory reporter training documents to
38 reflect the protections in section 2 of this act.

1 **Sec. 4.** RCW 42.56.640 and 2017 c 4 s 8 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 (1) Sensitive personal information of vulnerable individuals and
4 sensitive personal information of in-home caregivers for vulnerable
5 populations is exempt from inspection and copying under this chapter.

6 (2) The following definitions apply to this section:

7 (a) "In-home caregivers for vulnerable populations" means: (i)
8 Individual providers as defined in RCW 74.39A.240(~~(r)~~); and (ii) home
9 care aides as defined in RCW 18.88B.010(~~(r and (iii) family child~~
10 ~~care providers as defined in RCW 41.56.030)~~).

11 (b) "Sensitive personal information" means names, addresses,
12 (~~(GPS [global positioning system])~~) global positioning system
13 coordinates, telephone numbers, email addresses, social security
14 numbers, driver's license numbers, or other personally identifying
15 information.

16 (c) "Vulnerable individual" has the meaning set forth in RCW
17 9.35.005.

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