
HOUSE BILL 1643

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Doglio, Walsh, Dolan, Irwin, Orwall, Lovick, Macri, Appleton, Shewmake, Jenkins, Davis, Frame, and Leavitt

Read first time 01/25/19. Referred to Committee on State Government & Tribal Relations.

1 AN ACT Relating to property ownership for participants in the
2 address confidentiality program; amending RCW 40.24.010; and adding a
3 new section to chapter 40.24 RCW.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 40.24.010 and 2008 c 312 s 1 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 The legislature finds that persons attempting to escape from
8 actual or threatened domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking,
9 or stalking frequently establish new addresses in order to prevent
10 their assailants or probable assailants from finding them. The
11 purpose of this chapter is to enable state and local agencies to
12 respond to requests for public records without disclosing the
13 location of a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault,
14 trafficking, or stalking, to enable interagency cooperation with the
15 secretary of state in providing address confidentiality for victims
16 of domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking, or stalking, and
17 to enable state and local agencies to accept a program participant's
18 use of an address designated by the secretary of state as a
19 substitute mailing address. The legislature further intends to
20 provide assistance to program participants who own or desire to own

1 property in the state to protect such ownership from public
2 disclosure.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 40.24
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 The secretary of state shall contract with an entity to provide
6 legal assistance to program participants who request such assistance
7 to allow the participants to own property in the state without public
8 disclosure of such ownership by the participant. The secretary of
9 state and the state and local agencies and nonprofit agencies
10 designated by the secretary of state under RCW 40.24.080 shall
11 publicize the availability of legal assistance under this section to
12 program participants and applicants. The secretary of state may not
13 provide direct legal assistance to participants. No fee may be
14 charged to the participants for legal assistance under this section.

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