
SENATE BILL 5083

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Senators McCoy, Hasegawa, and Saldaña

Prefiled 01/04/19. Read first time 01/14/19. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1 AN ACT Relating to allowing certain records, documents,
2 proceedings, and published laws of federally recognized Indian tribes
3 to be admitted as evidence in courts of Washington state; and
4 amending RCW 5.44.010, 5.44.040, and 5.44.050.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 5.44.010 and 1997 c 358 s 7 are each amended to read
7 as follows:

8 The records and proceedings of any court of the United States, or
9 any state or territory, (~~shall be~~) or any federally recognized
10 Indian tribe, are admissible in evidence in all cases in this state
11 when duly certified by the attestation of the clerk, prothonotary or
12 other officer having charge of the records of such court, with the
13 seal of such court annexed.

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 5.44.040 and 1991 c 59 s 1 are each amended to read
15 as follows:

16 Copies of all records and documents on record or on file in the
17 offices of the various departments of the United States and of this
18 state or any other state or territory of the United States or any
19 federally recognized Indian tribe, when duly certified by the
20 respective officers having by law the custody thereof, under their

1 respective seals where such officers have official seals, (~~shall~~)
2 must be admitted in evidence in the courts of this state.

3 **Sec. 3.** RCW 5.44.050 and Code 1881 s 435 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 Printed copies of the statute laws of any state, territory,
6 (~~or~~) foreign government, or federally recognized Indian tribe if
7 purporting to have been published under the authority of the
8 respective governments, or if commonly admitted and read as evidence
9 in their courts, (~~shall~~) must be admitted in all courts in this
10 state, and on all other occasions as presumptive evidence of such
11 laws.

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