
HOUSE BILL 1991

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Simmons, Ortiz-Self, and Cortes

Read first time 02/17/25. Referred to Committee on State Government & Tribal Relations.

1 AN ACT Relating to exempting from public inspection and copying
2 requirements email addresses of individuals who subscribe to regular
3 communications of certain agencies as defined under the public
4 records act; and reenacting and amending RCW 42.56.230.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 42.56.230 and 2023 c 361 s 14, 2023 c 346 s 1, and
7 2023 c 182 s 2 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

8 The following personal information is exempt from public
9 inspection and copying under this chapter:

10 (1) Personal information in any files maintained for students in
11 public schools, patients or clients of public institutions or public
12 health agencies, or welfare recipients;

13 (2)(a) Personal information:

14 (i) For a child enrolled in licensed child care in any files
15 maintained by the department of children, youth, and families;

16 (ii) For a child enrolled in a public or nonprofit program
17 serving or pertaining to children, adolescents, or students,
18 including but not limited to early learning or child care services,
19 parks and recreation programs, youth development programs, and after-
20 school programs;

1 (iii) For a student enrolled or previously enrolled in a local
2 education agency, in any records pertaining to the student, including
3 correspondence;

4 (iv) For the family members or guardians of a child who is
5 subject to the exemption under this subsection (2) if the family
6 member or guardian has the same last name as the child or if the
7 family member or guardian resides at the same address as the child
8 and disclosure of the family member's or guardian's information would
9 result in disclosure of the personal information exempted under
10 (a)(i) through (iii) of this subsection; or

11 (v) For substitute caregivers who are licensed or approved to
12 provide overnight care of children by the department of children,
13 youth, and families.

14 (b) Emergency contact information under this subsection (2) may
15 be provided to appropriate authorities and medical personnel for the
16 purpose of treating the individual during an emergency situation;

17 (3) Personal information in files maintained for employees,
18 appointees, or elected officials of any public agency to the extent
19 that disclosure would violate their right to privacy;

20 (4) Information required of any taxpayer in connection with the
21 assessment or collection of any tax if the disclosure of the
22 information to other persons would: (a) Be prohibited to such persons
23 by RCW 84.08.210, 82.32.330, 84.40.020, 84.40.340, or any ordinance
24 authorized under RCW 35.102.145; or (b) violate the taxpayer's right
25 to privacy or result in unfair competitive disadvantage to the
26 taxpayer;

27 (5) Credit card numbers, debit card numbers, electronic check
28 numbers, card expiration dates, or bank or other financial
29 information as defined in RCW 9.35.005 including social security
30 numbers, except when disclosure is expressly required by or governed
31 by other law;

32 (6) Personal and financial information related to a small loan or
33 any system of authorizing a small loan in RCW 31.45.093;

34 (7)(a) Any record used to prove identity, age, residential
35 address, social security number, or other personal information
36 required to apply for a driver's license or identicard.

37 (b) Information provided under RCW 46.20.111 that indicates that
38 an applicant declined to register with the selective service system.

39 (c) Any record pertaining to a vehicle license plate, driver's
40 license, or identicard issued under RCW 46.08.066 that, alone or in

1 combination with any other records, may reveal the identity of an
2 individual, or reveal that an individual is or was, performing an
3 undercover or covert law enforcement, confidential public health
4 work, public assistance fraud, or child support investigative
5 activity. This exemption does not prevent the release of the total
6 number of vehicle license plates, drivers' licenses, or identicards
7 that, under RCW 46.08.066, an agency or department has applied for,
8 been issued, denied, returned, destroyed, lost, and reported for
9 misuse.

10 (d) Any record pertaining to a vessel registration issued under
11 RCW 88.02.330 that, alone or in combination with any other records,
12 may reveal the identity of an individual, or reveal that an
13 individual is or was, performing an undercover or covert law
14 enforcement activity. This exemption does not prevent the release of
15 the total number of vessel registrations that, under RCW 88.02.330,
16 an agency or department has applied for, been issued, denied,
17 returned, destroyed, lost, and reported for misuse.

18 Upon request by the legislature, the department of licensing
19 shall provide a report to the legislature containing all of the
20 information in (c) of this subsection (7) and this subsection (7)(d)
21 that is subject to public disclosure;

22 (8) All information related to individual claim resolution
23 settlement agreements submitted to the board of industrial insurance
24 appeals under RCW 51.04.063, other than final orders from the board
25 of industrial insurance appeals. The board of industrial insurance
26 appeals shall provide to the department of labor and industries
27 copies of all final claim resolution settlement agreements;

28 (9) Voluntarily submitted information contained in a database
29 that is part of or associated with 911 emergency communications
30 systems, or information contained or used in emergency notification
31 systems as provided under RCW 38.52.575 and 38.52.577;

32 (10) Information relating to a future voter, as provided in RCW
33 29A.08.725;

34 (11) All information submitted by a person to the state, either
35 directly or through a state-licensed gambling establishment, or
36 Indian tribes, or tribal enterprises that own gambling operations or
37 facilities with class III gaming compacts, as part of the self-
38 exclusion program established in RCW 9.46.071 or 67.70.040 for people
39 with a gambling problem or gambling disorder;

1 (12) Names, addresses, or other personal information of
2 individuals who participated in the bump-fire stock buy-back program
3 under former RCW 43.43.920; (~~and~~)

4 (13) All personal and financial information concerning a player
5 that is received or maintained by the state lottery or any contracted
6 lottery vendor except the player's name and city or town of
7 residence. Additional information may be released only in accordance
8 with prior written permission from the player; and

9 (14) Email addresses of individuals who submit their information
10 to a statutorily created state board or commission for the purpose of
11 subscribing to regular communications and updates from the board or
12 commission, such as a newsletter or other similar publication.

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