
HOUSE BILL 2029

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Abell, Corry, Chase, Ley, Marshall, Walsh, and Dufault

Read first time 02/27/25. Referred to Committee on Civil Rights & Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to the recognition of legal personhood by a
2 governmental entity; and adding a new section to chapter 42.04 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 42.04
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a governmental
7 entity may not grant legal personhood to, or recognize legal
8 personhood in, any:

9 (a) Artificial intelligence;

10 (b) Inanimate object;

11 (c) Body of water;

12 (d) Land;

13 (e) Real property;

14 (f) Atmospheric gas;

15 (g) Astronomical object;

16 (h) Weather;

17 (i) Plant;

18 (j) Nonhuman animal; or

19 (k) Any other member of a taxonomic domain that is not a natural
20 person.

21 (2) As used in this section:

1 (a) "Body of water" means any natural or man-made accumulation of
2 water, regardless of whether the accumulation of water is static or
3 subject to a force that causes a hydrological current.

4 (b) "Governmental entity" means a court, the legislature, and any
5 agency as defined in RCW 42.56.010.

6 (c) "Land" means the solid terrestrial surface or subsurface of
7 the earth.

8 (d) "Legal personhood" means the legal rights and obligations of
9 a natural person, or a legal person other than a natural person,
10 under the laws of this state.

11 (e) "Real property" means any building, fixture, improvement,
12 appurtenance, structure, or other development that is affixed
13 permanently to land.

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