

2020 Washington Privacy Act SB 6281

WDA and WACDL have concerns with SB 6281.

SB 6281 (S-4873) contains weak privacy provisions and problematic loopholes as explained by the ACLU of Washington.

We are deeply concerned about the racial biases present in facial recognition/surveillance tools. With any emerging technology, meaningful and effective regulation often proves impossible due to information asymmetry and the nature of technological advances. Here, Section 18 attempts to provide parameters for the use of facial recognition technology – technology that is swiftly changing and little-understood by laypeople. What remains indisputable is the racism currently baked into facial recognition software: black and Asian people are [100 times more likely to be misidentified than white men](#). Expanding the use of this software fails to protect marginalized communities from oversurveillance, and exposes the public's personal data to racially-biased technology.

We support HB 1654/SB 5528, calling for a moratorium on facial recognition technology until it can be proven that the technology is free from bias.

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