

JAY INSLEE
Governor



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To the Honorable President and Members,
The Senate of the State of Washington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning herewith, without my approval as to Section 10, Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 6280 entitled:

“AN ACT Relating to the use of facial recognition services.”

Section 10 establishes a legislative task force on facial recognition services with the purpose of:

- providing recommendations addressing the potential abuses and threats posed by the use of facial recognition services, while also addressing how to facilitate and encourage the continued development of these services;
- providing recommendations regarding the adequacy and effectiveness of applicable Washington state laws; and
- conducting a study on the quality, accuracy, and efficacy of a service.

While the purpose of this task force is very important, it was not funded in the budget. I recommend that the Legislature engage the Ruckelshaus Center in preparing a situation assessment that would inform policy recommendations on facial recognition technologies. Such an assessment would answer many questions about how best to proceed, and could better inform the creation of a task force in a subsequent legislative session.

For these reasons I have vetoed Section 10 of Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 6280.

With the exception of Section 10, Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 6280 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Inslee
Governor