



Consumer Federation of America

1620 I Street, N.W., Suite 200 * Washington, DC 20006

January 22, 2020

Zack Hudgins, Chair
Committee on Innovation, Technology & Innovation
Washington State House
205A John L. O'Brien Building
Olympia, WA 40600

RE: privacy legislation

Dear Chairman Hudgins:

On behalf of Consumer Federation of America (CFA), an association of consumer organizations across the country, including in Washington, I would like to provide you with some comments as you work to enact legislation protect the fundamental privacy rights of Washingtonians. I am attaching a letter that CFA and the Electronic Privacy Information Center has sent to the Senate Environment, Energy and Technology Committee regarding SB 6281, the Washington Privacy Act. In it, we make a number of requests and recommendations to strengthen the legislation.

I would also like to commend you and your colleagues for introducing HB 2364, the Charter of Personal Data Rights. The approach it takes in limiting data collection and use to that which is necessary to provide services to the individual and verify an individual's requests is more privacy-protective than legislation that provides the right to opt-out of other collection and use. I also appreciate the fact that it requires individuals' data to be secured from unauthorized acquisition or access and provides for a private right of action. It is essential for Washingtonians to be able to enforce their privacy rights. The straightforward and plain language in the bill is a "breath of fresh air" to those of us who struggle to read legislation that is typically more convoluted and makes it easier for the public to understand.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance as you work through the issues to enact legislation that will provide strong baseline privacy protections to Washingtonians.

Sincerely yours,

Susan Grant
Director of Consumer Protection and Privacy
Consumer Federation of America

Attachment (1)
CC: Committee Members