

April 12, 2021

The Honorable Representative Laurie Jinkins  
Speaker of the Washington House of Representatives  
339C Legislative Building  
PO Box 40600  
Olympia, WA 98504-0600

Re: Washington Privacy Act Opposite Chamber Cutoff

Dear Speaker Jinkins and Members of the House of Representatives:



For years, privacy, consumer rights, racial justice, and civil rights advocates have called for meaningful privacy regulations that empower people to control their information. As you are aware, SB 5062 did not meet bare minimum standards to protect people's privacy and would have legitimized a status quo that protects big tech companies, and not people.

SB 5062 advanced through the legislative process consistent with non-NTIB bills, yet it failed to advance by the April 11 5 p.m. opposite chamber deadline, which we believe was the right thing.

Because many of you believe Washingtonians need and deserve meaningful privacy protections, and given that the issue is not fully baked (e.g., nearly two dozen floor amendments), we believe this bill should not be considered necessary to implement the budget, and be considered done for this session.

The Tech Equity Coalition and the ACLU of Washington worked with Rep. Kloba this year to put forth a community-centric privacy bill called the People's Privacy Act (HB 1433). Legislators have been made more aware that there are stronger options for data privacy legislation, and that HB 1433 presents a people-centric framework to address data privacy.

This is an opportunity for the House of Representatives to call SB 5062 done for this session and commit to giving Rep. Kloba's approach the time and attention that it rightfully deserves.

We are looking forward to collaborating with lawmakers over the interim to ensure strong privacy protections receive more robust and broad support prior to and during the next legislative session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eric Gonzalez Alfaro".

Eric Gonzalez Alfaro  
Legislative Director, American Civil Liberties Union of Washington

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