

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1829**

Chapter 134, Laws of 1998

55th Legislature  
1998 Regular Session

COMPUTER HARDWARE--RECORDS OF TRADE-IN OR EXCHANGE INFORMATION

EFFECTIVE DATE: 6/11/98

Passed by the House March 10, 1998  
Yeas 98 Nays 0

CLYDE BALLARD  
**Speaker of the  
House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate March 3, 1998  
Yeas 39 Nays 8

BRAD OWEN  
**President of the Senate**

Approved March 25, 1998

GARY LOCKE  
**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Timothy A. Martin, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1829** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

TIMOTHY A. MARTIN  
**Chief Clerk**

FILED

March 25, 1998 - 4:20 p.m.

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1829**

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AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 1998 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      55th Legislature                      1997 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Commerce & Labor (originally sponsored by Representative Van Loven)

Read first time 03/05/97.

1        AN ACT Relating to trade-in or exchange of computer hardware;  
2 adding new sections to chapter 62A.2 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

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

4        NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 1.** (1) Any retail establishment doing business  
5 in this state that accepts for trade-in or exchange any computer  
6 hardware for the purchase of other computer hardware of greater value  
7 shall maintain, at the time of each transaction, a record of the  
8 following information:

9        (a) The signature of the person with whom the transaction is made;

10        (b) The date of the transaction;

11        (c) The name of the person or employee or the identification number  
12 of the person or employee conducting the transaction; and

13        (d) The name, date of birth, and address and telephone number of  
14 the person with whom the transaction is made.

15        (2) This record is open to the inspection of any commissioned law  
16 enforcement officer of the state or any of its political subdivisions,  
17 and will be maintained for a period of one year following the date of  
18 the transaction.

19        (3) As used in this section:

1 (a) "Computer" means a programmable electronic machine that  
2 performs high-speed mathematical or logical operation or that  
3 assembles, stores, correlates, or otherwise processes information.

4 (b) "Computer hardware" means a computer and the associated  
5 physical equipment involved in the performance of data processing or  
6 communications functions. The term does not include computer software.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) Upon request, every retailer doing  
8 business in this state that accepts for trade-in or exchange computer  
9 hardware shall furnish a full, true, and correct transcript of the  
10 record of all transactions conducted, under section 1 of this act, on  
11 the proceeding day. These transactions shall be recorded on such forms  
12 as may be provided and in such format as may be required by the chief  
13 of police or the county's chief law enforcement officer within a  
14 specified time but not less than twenty-four hours.

15 (2) If a retailer has good cause to believe that any computer  
16 hardware in their possession has been previously lost or stolen, the  
17 retailer shall promptly report that fact to the applicable chief of  
18 police or the county's chief law enforcement officer, together with the  
19 name of the owner, if known, and the date when, and the name of the  
20 person from whom, it was received.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** It is a gross misdemeanor under chapter  
22 9A.20 RCW for:

23 (1) Any person to remove, alter, or obliterate any manufacturer's  
24 make, model, or serial number, personal identification number, or  
25 identifying marks engraved or etched upon the computer hardware that is  
26 received as a trade-in or in exchange on the purchase of other computer  
27 hardware of greater value. In addition a retailer shall not accept any  
28 computer hardware as a trade-in or in exchange on the purchase of other  
29 computer hardware of greater value where the manufacturer's make,  
30 model, or serial number, personal identification number, or identifying  
31 marks engraved or etched upon the computer hardware has been removed,  
32 altered, or obliterated;

33 (2) Any person to knowingly make, cause, or allow to be made any  
34 false entry or misstatement of any material matter in any book, record,  
35 or writing required to be kept under this chapter; or

36 (3) Any person to knowingly violate any other provision of chapter  
37 . . . , Laws of 1998 (this act).

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 4.**    Sections 1 through 3 of this act do not  
2    apply to trade-in or exchange of computers, or computer hardware,  
3    between consumers and retailers, or their branch facilities, when the  
4    computer or computer hardware was originally purchased from that same  
5    retailer.

6        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 5.**    Sections 1 through 4 of this act are each  
7    added to chapter 62A.2 RCW.

      Passed the House March 10, 1998.

      Passed the Senate March 3, 1998.

      Approved by the Governor March 25, 1998.

      Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 25, 1998.