



Review of public records exemption for survivors of domestic violence, sexual abuse, stalking, or harassment

(ESHB 1533, 2023)

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What's protected?

Personally identifying information in Personnel-related files and systems

Exception:

News media may still access this information



To whom does it apply?

Public employees who have survived abuse and are at continuing risk



What's required?

Provide appropriate documentation to agency



Study will address 3 questions

1. How are public agencies implementing the exemption?
 - What are the characteristics, including race and ethnicity, of those whose data is protected by the exemption?
2. Has the exemption protected the personal information of affected public employees?
3. What effect, if any, has the exemption had on access to public records, including the news media?



Next Steps

Field Work

June 2024 – January 2025

- Threshold Survey of Public Records Officers
- Public Agency interviews
- Survivor interviews
- Review of aggregated employee demographic data

Preliminary Report

May 2025

Proposed Final Report

July 2025



Questions?

Contact Us

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