HOUSE BILL 1634

State of Washington 68th Legislature 2023 Regular Session

By Representative Reeves

1 AN ACT Relating to residential insurance policies; and adding a 2 new section to chapter 48.18 RCW.

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

4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 1. A new section is added to chapter 48.18 5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) An insurer licensed to write residential insurance policies 7 in this state shall not deny an application for a residential 8 insurance policy, or cancel, refuse to renew, or modify an existing 9 residential insurance policy for the principal reason that the 10 applicant or insured owns or possesses a specific breed or mixture of 11 breeds of a dog that is harbored or owned on an applicable property.

12 (2) The provisions of subsection (1) of this section do not prohibit an insurer from refusing to issue, canceling, refusing to 13 14 renew, or imposing a reasonable increase to a premium or rate for a 15 residential insurance policy based on sound underwriting and 16 actuarial principles, including but not limited to whether a 17 particular dog which is harbored or owned on an applicable property 18 is known to be dangerous or has been declared to be dangerous in 19 accordance with chapter 16.08 RCW.

(3) An insurer of residential insurance policies may not ask or
inquire about the specific breed or mixture of breeds of a dog which
is harbored or owned on an applicable property.

4 (4) For the purposes of this section, "residential insurance 5 policy" means insurance that covers damage or loss to all types of 6 homes and tenure type including, but not limited to, renters and 7 owners for site-built homes, manufactured homes, factory-built homes, 8 and mobile homes. "Residential insurance policy" does not include 9 commercial insurance.

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