



**COMMISSION
AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

Item No. 10b

ACTION ITEM

Date of Meeting October 13, 2026

DATE: October 6, 2026
TO: Stephen P. Metruck, Executive Director
FROM: Aaron Pritchard, Commission Chief of Staff
Francis Choe, Strategic Advisor, Commission Office
SUBJECT: **Port of Seattle Commission Resolution Opposing Initiative IL26-001**

ACTION REQUESTED

Request Commission adoption of Resolution No. 3856, a resolution expressing opposition to Initiative Measure No. IL26-001, Concerning the Disclosure of Private Student Medical and Mental Health Records Without Student Consent, Appearing on the November 3, 2026, General Election Ballot; and Reaffirming the Commission's Commitment, First Expressed in Order No. 2022-08, to Protecting the Privacy of Personal Health Information and Health Care Decisions.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the general election on November 3, 2026, Washington voters will act on two statewide ballot measures sponsored by the political committee Let's Go Washington. Both were filed as initiatives to the Legislature; when the Legislature declined to act on them during the 2026 session, they advanced to the general election ballot for a vote of the people. Initiative Measure No. IL26-001 would partially repeal the student privacy protections of Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1296, enacted by the Legislature in 2025, by allowing certain private student medical and mental health records to be disclosed to parents without the student's consent and by requiring parental notification before medical services are offered.

The measure rests on the same premise the Commission rejected in Order No. 2022-08 following the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision, a 2022 U.S. Supreme Court ruling, in which the court ruled that government may compel the disclosure of private health information. The students affected attend the same public schools from which the Port draws participants for its Career Connected Learning programs, high school internships at SEA, and the Youth Maritime Career Launch program.

This resolution is brought forward alongside a companion resolution opposing Initiative Measure No. IL26-638 to establish the Port of Seattle Commission's opposition to IL26-001 on the November 2026 ballot, consistent with the Commission's record: its 2016 opposition to Initiative

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1515 (Motion 2016-04), its gender-inclusive facilities direction (Motion 2018-08), its June 2023 Pride proclamation, its equity principle “Prioritizing the Most Vulnerable,” and Order No. 2022-08 (aligning Port policy with Washington’s Directive 22-21 cooperation or assistance with out-of-state abortion and other reproductive health care investigations, prosecutions or other legal actions).

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND**Statewide**

Initiative Measure No. IL26-001 was filed on May 22, 2025, and certified to the November 3, 2026 general election ballot after the Legislature declined to act on it during the 2026 session. The measure would roll back changes the Legislature made in 2025 through ESHB 1296, which updated the parental-rights framework created by Initiative 2081 (2024) to protect the confidentiality of certain student medical and mental health records. Opposition has been announced by the Washington State PTA, the ACLU of Washington, the Washington Education Association, and the No Hate in WA State coalition. On July 28, 2026, the Tacoma City Council unanimously adopted Resolution No. 41972 expressing opposition to both of Let’s Go Washington’s initiatives. On September 22, 2026, King County Council also formally adopted resolutions opposing Initiatives IL26-638 and IL26-001.

Port of Seattle

The Port’s equity framework, Values in Action, includes a principle titled “Prioritizing the Most Vulnerable,” committing the Port to engaging those most directly and adversely impacted by its work and expressly naming vulnerable communities as relevant stakeholders. The draft resolution applies this principle to the initiative’s effect on students, on the premise that children are among the Port’s most vulnerable stakeholders. The Commission’s June 2023 Pride proclamation recognized that discriminatory laws targeting the LGBTQIA2S+ community are on the rise and committed the Port to supporting LGBTQIA2S+ individuals and their families; Order No. 2022-08 affirmed that private health care information belongs to the person and must not be subject to compelled disclosure.

The Port’s economic stake parallels the companion measure: a visitor economy – more than 50 million SEA travelers annually and a record cruise season generating an estimated \$1.2 billion – that depends on the region’s welcoming reputation, and a multi-million-dollar annual investment in student-age young people through Career Connected Learning, SEA high school internships, the \$4.1 million Youth Maritime Career Launch program, and Duwamish Valley youth programs.

ATTACHMENTS TO THIS REQUEST

(1) Draft Resolution