

**ORDINANCE NO. 2024-26**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RICHLAND, WASHINGTON,  
AMENDING RICHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE SECTIONS 5.04.170  
AND 5.04.290 RELATED TO BUSINESS LICENSING INFORMATION  
AND ENFORCEMENT.**

**WHEREAS**, the City has need, from time to time, to amend the Richland Municipal Code to bring it into alignment with state law; and

**WHEREAS**, the City recently discovered two deficiencies in its business licensing code that create unnecessary difficulty in prosecuting the crime of operating without a business license; and

**WHEREAS**, the deficiencies are the product of antiquated language that requires amendment.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the City of Richland as follows:

Section 1. Richland Municipal Code Section 5.04.170, entitled Compliance required, as first enacted by Ordinance No. 83, and last amended by Ordinance No. 50-19, is hereby amended as follows:

**5.04.170 Compliance required.**

It shall be unlawful for any person, either directly or indirectly, to conduct any business or nonprofit enterprise for which a license, or permit, is required by this chapter, without having a license or permit therefor in effect at all times as required by this chapter. The issuance of a license or permit under this chapter shall not waive or excuse compliance with the provisions of any other ordinance of the city. Any person violating any provision of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable as provided in RMC 9.02.020(C). ~~and shall be punished by a fine not to exceed \$5,000 or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or both such fine and imprisonment.~~

Section 2. Richland Municipal Code Section 5.04.290, entitled Information confidential, as first enacted by Ordinance No. 83, and last amended by Ordinance No. 50-19, is hereby amended as follows:

**5.04.290 Information confidential.**

~~The license officer shall keep all i~~Information furnished or secured under the authority of this chapter is confidential and privileged pursuant to RCW 19.02.115(2). ~~in strict confidence.~~ Unless a basis for disclosure exists in RCW 19.02.115(3)-(5), Ssuch information shall not be subject to public inspection and shall be kept so that the contents thereof shall not become known except to the persons charged with the administration and enforcement of this chapter. The Washington State Department of Revenue is authorized to access City's confidential licensing information in exchange for reciprocal access to Department of Revenue licensing information as authorized by RCW 19.02.115(3)(j).

Section 3. This Ordinance shall take effect the day following its publication in the official newspaper of the City of Richland.

Section 4. Should any section or provision of this Ordinance be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, that decision shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole or any part thereof, other than the part so declared to be invalid.

Section 5. The City Clerk and the codifiers of this Ordinance are authorized to make necessary corrections to this Ordinance, including but not limited to the correction of scrivener's errors/clerical errors, section numbering, references, or similar mistakes of form.

**PASSED** by the City Council of the City of Richland, Washington, at a regular meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024.



Theresa Richardson, Mayor

Attest:

  
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Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

  
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Heather Kintzley, City Attorney

First Reading: August 7, 2024  
Second Reading: August 20, 2024  
Date Published: August 25, 2024