SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE

Department:	Dept. Contact:	CBO Contact:
Law	Brandon Isleib	

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to unsworn declarations; updating references to state law on unsworn declarations by amending all references to RCW 9A.72.085 to chapter 5.50 RCW; and amending Sections 6.430.040, 6.500.170, 6.600.120, 7.24.130, 8.37.220, 8.38.220, 10.52.035, 14.16.050, 14.16.070, 14.16.105, 14.17.045, 14.17.080, 14.19.050, 14.19.070, 14.19.105, 14.20.030, 14.20.050, 14.20.085, 14.21.050, 14.22.065, 14.22.085, 14.22.120, 14.23.085, 14.23.120, 14.26.150, 14.26.220, 14.27.150, 14.27.220, 14.28.150, 14.28.220, 14.29.150, 14.29.220, 14.30.120, 14.30.190, 14.33.110, 14.33.150, 14.33.220, 14.34.150, 14.34.220, 15.91.004, 15.91.012, 18.12.278, 22.212.110, 23.91.012, 25.08.900, and 25.08.940 of the Seattle Municipal Code and Section 112 of the Seattle Fire Code.

Summary and Background of the Legislation: The standards for subscribing to unsworn declarations were contained in RCW 9A.72.085 for nearly 40 years. As a result, several evidentiary proceedings in the Seattle Municipal Code referred to it. In 2019, the Washington State Legislature repealed RCW 9A.72.085, combining its material into chapter 5.50 RCW (formerly the Uniform Unsworn Foreign Declarations Act) and converting the chapter into the Uniform Unsworn Declarations Act.

This repeal caused every municipal code in the state that referred to RCW 9A.72.085 to point to the wrong area of the law. This bill removes references to the repealed provision and points to chapter 5.50 RCW generally, which is the exact amendment in the original state statute.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Project Name:	Master Project I.D.:	Project Location:	Start Date:	End Date:	Total Project Cost Through 2030:

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Expenditure Change ($); General Fund	2025	2026 est.	2027 est.	2028 est.	2029 est.

Expenditure Change ($); Other Funds	2025	2026 est.	2027 est.	2028 est.	2029 est.

Revenue Change ($); General Fund	2025	2026 est.	2027 est.	2028 est.	2029 est.
Revenue Change ($); Other Funds	**2025**	**2026 est.**	**2027 est.**	**2028 est.**	**2029 est.**

Number of Positions	2025	2026 est.	2027 est.	2028 est.	2029 est.
Total FTE Change	**2025**	**2026 est.**	**2027 est.**	**2028 est.**	**2029 est.**

3.a. Appropriations

☐ **This legislation adds, changes, or deletes appropriations.**

Fund Name and Number	Dept	Budget Control Level Name/Number	2025 Appropriation Change	2026 Estimated Appropriation Change
		TOTAL		

Appropriations Notes:

3.b. Revenues/Reimbursements

☐ **This legislation adds, changes, or deletes revenues or reimbursements.**

Anticipated Revenue/Reimbursement Resulting from This Legislation:

Fund Name and Number	Dept	Revenue Source	2025 Revenue	2026 Estimated Revenue
		TOTAL		

Revenue/Reimbursement Notes:

3.c. Positions

☐ **This legislation adds, changes, or deletes positions.**

Total Regular Positions Created, Modified, or Abrogated through This Legislation, Including FTE Impact:

Position # for Existing Positions	Position Title & Department*	Fund Name & Number	Program & BCL	PT/FT	2025 Positions	2025 FTE	Does it sunset? (If yes, explain below in Position Notes)
			TOTAL				

** List each position separately.*

Position Notes:

3.d. Other Impacts

Does the legislation have other financial impacts to The City of Seattle, including direct or indirect, one-time or ongoing costs, that are not included in Sections 3.a through 3.c? If so, please describe these financial impacts. No.

If the legislation has costs, but they can be absorbed within existing operations, please describe how those costs can be absorbed. The description should clearly describe if the absorbed costs are achievable because the department had excess resources within their existing budget or if by absorbing these costs the department is deprioritizing other work that would have used these resources.

Please describe any financial costs or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation.

Continuing to describe parts of the City's evidentiary proceedings with a repealed law will leave the state of the law confusing to its users.

Please describe how this legislation may affect any City departments other than the originating department.

This legislation impacts several types of matters brought before the Hearing Examiner, from the departments who use the provisions in the bill:

SDCI (Chapter 6.430 and Titles 7, 10, 22, 23, and 25);
FAS (Chapter 6.500 and 6.600);
OLS (Titles 8 and 14);
SDOT (Title 15);
SPR (Title 18);

OPCD (Title 23); and
SFD (Seattle Fire Code).

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

a. Is a public hearing required for this legislation? No.

b. Is publication of notice with The Daily Journal of Commerce and/or The Seattle Times required for this legislation? No.

c. Does this legislation affect a piece of property? No.

d. Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative.

i. How does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you arrive at this conclusion? In your response please consider impacts within City government (employees, internal programs) as well as in the broader community. Accuracy of laws describing procedures is especially useful to groups who have been denied resources in the past, but the overall impact of this one change is small.

ii. Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses in the development and/or assessment of the legislation. None were developed.

iii. What is the Language Access Plan for any communications to the public? None have been developed.

e. Climate Change Implications

i. Emissions: How is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way? Please attach any studies or other materials that were used to inform this response. Not likely in either direction.

ii. Resiliency: Will the action(s) proposed by this legislation increase or decrease Seattle's resiliency (or ability to adapt) to climate change in a material way? If so, explain. If it is likely to decrease resiliency in a material way, describe what will or could be done to mitigate the effects. No.

f. If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the specific long-term and measurable goal(s) of the program? How will this legislation help achieve the program's desired goal(s)? What mechanisms will be used to measure progress towards meeting those goals?

g. Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP project that involves a shared financial commitment with a non-City partner agency or organization? No.

5. ATTACHMENTS

Summary Attachments: None.