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Breaking Update: FTC's Noncompete Ban and What It Means for Washington

04.24.24 04.23.26

On Tuesday, April 23, the US Federal Trade Commission issued a final rule that would prohibit many noncompete agreements nationwide ([FTC Announcement](#), [AP News coverage](#)). The next day, several business groups filed a lawsuit in Texas, seeking to block this rule ([CNBC](#), [The Hill](#)), indicating a rocky road ahead for its implementation. Importantly, if the FTC rule is blocked, recent modifications to Washington's noncompete laws (some of which we briefly summarized [here](#)) will survive; and even if the FTC rule comes into effect, portions of the Washington statute will still affect Washington employers.

Authored by

[Steven R. Peltin](#)

[Principal|Seattle](#)

[206.447.6215](tel:206.447.6215) steve.peltin@foster.com

[Jared Van Kirk](#)

[Principal|Seattle](#)

[206.816.1372](tel:206.816.1372) jared.vankirk@foster.com

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