On motion of Senator Fain, the Senate advanced to the fifth order of business.

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

SB 5932 by Senators Fortunato, Rossi and Miloscia
AN ACT Relating to new counties; amending RCW 36.32.020 and 84.09.030; adding new sections to chapter 36.09 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 47.01 RCW; creating a new section; repealing RCW 4.12.070, 36.09.010, 36.09.020, 36.09.035, 36.09.040, and 36.09.050; and prescribing penalties.

Referred to Committee on State Government.

SCR 8404 by Senator Fain
Specifying the status of bills, memorials, and resolutions for the 2017 regular and first special sessions of the Sixty-fifth Legislature.

MOTION
On motion of Senator Fain, all measures listed on the Introduction and First Reading report were referred to the committees as designated with the exception of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 8404 which was placed on the second reading calendar.

MOTION
On motion of Senator Fain, the Senate advanced to the sixth order of business.

SECOND READING

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8404, by Senator Fain
Specifying the status of bills, memorials, and resolutions for the 2017 regular and first special sessions of the Sixty-fifth Legislature.

The measure was read the second time.

MOTION
On motion of Senator Fain, the rules were suspended, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 8404 was advanced to third reading, the second reading considered the third and the bill was placed on final passage.

The President declared the question before the Senate to be the adoption of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 8404.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8404 having received a majority was adopted by voice vote.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Senator Frockt: “Thank you Mr. President. I want to take a minute since we were convening the Senate this morning, as we begin the special session, to say just a couple of words about the
incident that took place in Seattle Washington on Thursday afternoon where three officers were wounded. We have more information about what happened during that encounter and I thought it was important to come and acknowledge in the Senate, for the audience that may be watching, but also just for the record and preserving for the record, the heroism of these three officers. And if I could Mr. President, I would like to talk a little bit about what happened. The three officers that were involved, there was an incident were three individuals went into a 7-11 on First Avenue, not too far from where my law office used to be on First Avenue in downtown Seattle. They were eventually confronted after allegedly stealing some items and were chased by the police. And there was a violent struggle that ensued. Three officers were shot, a number of other officers participated. One very seriously, Officer Elizabeth Kennedy, was shot in the chest in her Kevlar vest and is survived and it is my understanding is doing well. The other officer, Officer Hudson Kang, aged 30, a graduate of Eisenhower High School in Yakima and Yakima Valley Community College, was also wounded and as of a couple of days ago was recovering in the hospital. There was a third officer who was also sustained a minor wound as I understand it, it was a graze and that officer whose name I do not have with me is also doing okay. I think it is just important to remember in a year were we have been dealing and talking a lot about in this legislature the very difficult job that our officers have to do when responding in very stressful and dangerous situations. And how they are trained to run towards the danger and this is a very perfect example of what happened. Both of these officers, Officer Kennedy, was formerly a prosecutor on the East Coast before she came to Washington State and decided to go and become a line officer and had only been on the force for three years. Officer Kang, only 30 years old, had served apparently as a reserve officer in Yakima before coming over to Seattle. And in 2016 he received an award from the Seattle Police Foundation for his work not only in responding in dangerous situations but saving the life of a suspect who had been wounded in a confrontation with officers. Mr. President if I can read very briefly from the incident report that was posted on the Seattle Police Foundation when Officer Kang received the award?”

President Habib: “Please proceed.”

Senator Frockt: “Thank you Mr. President. The Foundation report says that all the officers including Officer Kang remained calm and professional during this extremely stressful situation and communicated with each other effectively during the de-escalation of the situation, and the subduence of the suspect. The officers immediately began life saving aid on the suspect. They were not drawn by bias or anger. This was indeed a suspect that attempted to harm, or possibly even kill, a fellow squad mate yet they did not hesitate to act. They acted professionally as they searched for gunshot wounds on the suspect’s body and that suspect eventually did survive. So I think it is really interesting and telling that in a point in time this year when we have had a lot of discussion about the deadly use of force, about the very complicated job that we put our officers on the line to do. And Officer Kang, the officer that was wounded subduing the suspect on Thursday was at the same time just a year before in another incident where he was involved or his squad mates were involved in an episode where a suspect ended up being shot but then he was involved in saving the life of that very same suspect. We owe a lot to our officers on the street who protect us everyday. And even while I do believe we need to make some changes to the deadly use of force law, for a variety of reasons, it is always important to remember the very selfless acts, indeed the very incredible acts of public service, our law enforcement officers are doing for this community and Seattle and around out state. And I just wanted to take a moment to acknowledge those three officers and in particular Officers Kang and Kennedy who were injured on Thursday. Thank you Mr. President.”

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Senator Hasegawa: “Thank you Mr. President. I want to thank the previous speaker for his acknowledgement of the previous incident. I want to also bring to your attention that we have a guest from mainland China visiting here today, Dr. Zhirong Hu, and he is Senior Advisor to the Chinese government, friends of both President Obama and the President of China Xi, and they are here and he is on a whirlwind visit, but I just wanted to acknowledge that they are here in Olympia for the specific purpose of just saying Hi to the Lieutenant Governor and to the rest of us and getting to learn a little bit more about how Washington State operates and cooperates with China. So, I just wanted to make that acknowledgement and appreciate your indulgence. Thank you”

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

The President welcomed and introduced Dr. Zhirong Hu, Senior Advisor to the Chinese government, who was seated in the gallery.

MOTION

At 10:10 a.m., on motion of Senator Fain, the Senate adjourned until 9:25 o'clock a.m. Wednesday, April 26, 2017.

CYRUS HABIB, President of the Senate

HUNTER G. GOODMAN, Secretary of the Senate