

NINETEENTH DAY, JANUARY 26, 2024

2024 REGULAR SESSION

NINETEENTH DAY

AFTERNOON SESSION

Senate Chamber, Olympia
Friday, January 26, 2024

The Senate was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by the President of the Senate, Lt. Governor Heck presiding. No roll call was taken.

MOTIONS

On motion of Senator Pedersen, the reading of the Journal of the previous day was dispensed with and it was approved.

There being no objection, the Senate advanced to the first order of business.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

January 25, 2024

SB 5095 Prime Sponsor, Senator Nobles: Creating the "parks Rx" health and wellness pilot programs. Reported by Committee on Health & Long-Term Care

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5095 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Robinson, Vice Chair; Rivers, Ranking Member; Muzzall, Assistant Ranking Member; Cleveland, Chair; Conway; Dhingra; Holy; Randall and Van De Wege.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senator Padden.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

January 25, 2024

2SSB 5438 Prime Sponsor, Committee on Ways & Means: Facilitating supportive relationships with family and significant individuals within the behavioral health system. Reported by Committee on Human Services

MAJORITY recommendation: That Third Substitute Senate Bill No. 5438 be substituted therefor, and the third substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Wilson, C., Chair; Kauffman, Vice Chair; Boehnke, Ranking Member; Frame; Nguyen; Warnick and Wilson, J.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

January 25, 2024

SB 5776 Prime Sponsor, Senator Keiser: Accessing an emergency supply of insulin. Reported by Committee on Health & Long-Term Care

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5776 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Robinson, Vice Chair; Cleveland, Chair; Conway; Dhingra; Randall and Van De Wege.

MINORITY recommendation: Do not pass. Signed by

Senators Rivers, Ranking Member Muzzall, Assistant Ranking Member.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senators Holy and Padden.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

January 25, 2024

SB 5786 Prime Sponsor, Senator Pedersen: Making updates to the Washington business corporation act. Reported by Committee on Law & Justice

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5786 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Dhingra, Chair; Trudeau, Vice Chair; Padden, Ranking Member; Kuderer; McCune; Pedersen; Salomon; Torres; Valdez; Wagoner and Wilson, L.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SB 5792 Prime Sponsor, Senator Padden: Concerning the definition of multiunit residential buildings. Reported by Committee on Law & Justice

MAJORITY recommendation: Do pass. Signed by Senators Dhingra, Chair; Trudeau, Vice Chair; Padden, Ranking Member; Kuderer; McCune; Pedersen; Salomon; Torres; Valdez; Wagoner and Wilson, L.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SB 5796 Prime Sponsor, Senator Pedersen: Concerning common interest communities. Reported by Committee on Law & Justice

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5796 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Dhingra, Chair; Trudeau, Vice Chair; Padden, Ranking Member; Kuderer; Pedersen; Salomon; Torres and Valdez.

MINORITY recommendation: Do not pass. Signed by Senators McCune; Wagoner and Wilson, L.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SB 5799 Prime Sponsor, Senator Wilson, C.: Concerning the sale of halal foods. Reported by Committee on Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks

MAJORITY recommendation: Do pass. Signed by Senators Muzzall, Ranking Member; Van De Wege, Chair; Salomon, Vice Chair; Liias; Shewmake; Short; Stanford; Wagoner and Warnick.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SB 5802 Prime Sponsor, Senator Muzzall: Providing flexibility in calculation of nursing rates. Reported by Committee on Health & Long-Term Care

MAJORITY recommendation: Do pass. Signed by Senators Robinson, Vice Chair; Rivers, Ranking Member; Muzzall, Assistant Ranking Member; Cleveland, Chair; Conway; Dhingra; Holy; Padden; Randall and Van De Wege.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

January 25, 2024

SB 5829 Prime Sponsor, Senator Frame: Screening newborn infants for congenital cytomegalovirus. Reported by Committee on Health & Long-Term Care

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5829 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Robinson, Vice Chair; Rivers, Ranking Member; Muzzall, Assistant Ranking Member; Cleveland, Chair; Conway; Dhingra; Holy; Padden; Randall and Van De Wege.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SB 5834 Prime Sponsor, Senator Short: Concerning urban growth areas. Reported by Committee on Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5834 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Lovelett, Chair; Salomon, Vice Chair; Torres, Ranking Member; Kauffman and Short.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SB 5846 Prime Sponsor, Senator Salomon: Concerning beaver ecosystem management. Reported by Committee on Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5846 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Muzzall, Ranking Member; Van De Wege, Chair; Salomon, Vice Chair; Liias; Shewmake; Stanford and Warnick.

MINORITY recommendation: Do not pass. Signed by Senator Wagoner.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senator Short.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

January 25, 2024

SB 5849 Prime Sponsor, Senator Wellman: Concerning a computer science competency graduation requirement. Reported by Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5849 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Wellman, Chair; Nobles, Vice Chair; Wilson, C., Vice Chair; Hawkins, Ranking Member; Dozier; Hunt; McCune; Mullet and Pedersen.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SB 5851 Prime Sponsor, Senator Braun: Concerning Holocaust and genocide education in public schools. Reported by Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5851 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Wellman, Chair; Wilson, C., Vice Chair; Hawkins, Ranking Member; Dozier; Hunt; McCune; Mullet and Pedersen.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senator Nobles, Vice Chair.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

January 25, 2024

SB 5858 Prime Sponsor, Senator Fortunato: Concerning the just and equitable distribution of real property and liabilities in the dissolution of marriage or domestic partnerships. Reported by Committee on Law & Justice

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5858 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Dhingra, Chair; Trudeau, Vice Chair; Padden, Ranking Member; McCune; Salomon; Torres; Wagoner and Wilson, L.

MINORITY recommendation: Do not pass. Signed by Senators Kuderer; Pedersen and Valdez.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SB 5885 Prime Sponsor, Senator Torres: Concerning procedures for certificates of annexation submitted to the office of financial management. Reported by Committee on Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs

MAJORITY recommendation: Do pass. Signed by Senators Lovelett, Chair; Salomon, Vice Chair; Torres, Ranking Member; Kauffman and Short.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SB 5891 Prime Sponsor, Senator Boehnke: Designating trespassing on a public school bus as a felony offense. Reported by Committee on Law & Justice

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5891 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Dhingra, Chair; Padden, Ranking Member; McCune; Pedersen; Torres; Wagoner and Wilson, L.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senators Trudeau, Vice Chair; Kuderer; Salomon and Valdez.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

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SB 5901 Prime Sponsor, Senator Salomon: Concerning co-living housing. Reported by Committee on Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs

on Early Learning & K-12 Education

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5901 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Lovelett, Chair; Salomon, Vice Chair; Torres, Ranking Member and Kauffman.

MAJORITY recommendation: Do pass. Signed by Senators Wellman, Chair; Nobles, Vice Chair; Wilson, C., Vice Chair; Hawkins, Ranking Member; Dozier; Hunt; McCune; Mullet and Pedersen.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senator Short.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SB 5917 Prime Sponsor, Senator Billig: Concerning criminal penalties for bias-motivated defacement of private or public property. Reported by Committee on Law & Justice

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5917 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Dhingra, Chair; Trudeau, Vice Chair; Kuderer; Pedersen; Salomon and Valdez.

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5953 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Wilson, C., Chair; Kauffman, Vice Chair; Frame and Nguyen.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senators Boehnke, Ranking Member and Warnick.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senator Wagoner.

MINORITY recommendation: Do not pass. Signed by Senator Wilson, J.

MINORITY recommendation: Do not pass. Signed by Senators Padden, Ranking Member; McCune; Torres and Wilson, L.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SB 5968 Prime Sponsor, Senator Stanford: Regulating home equity sharing agreements under the consumer loan act. Reported by Committee on Business, Financial Services, Gaming & Trade

January 25, 2024

SB 5925 Prime Sponsor, Senator Torres: Concerning fire protection district commissioner per diem compensation. Reported by Committee on Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5925 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Lovelett, Chair; Salomon, Vice Chair; Torres, Ranking Member; Kauffman and Short.

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5968 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Stanford, Chair; Frame, Vice Chair; Hasegawa; Lovick and Mullet.

MINORITY recommendation: Do not pass. Signed by Senators Dozier, Ranking Member; Boehnke; Gildon and MacEwen.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SB 5938 Prime Sponsor, Senator Wilson, C.: Modifying the community parenting alternative for eligible participants in the residential parenting program at the department of corrections. Reported by Committee on Human Services

SB 5970 Prime Sponsor, Senator Hunt: Modifying local board of health county commissioner membership. Reported by Committee on Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs

MAJORITY recommendation: Do pass. Signed by Senators Wilson, C., Chair; Kauffman, Vice Chair; Frame; Nguyen; Warnick and Wilson, J.

MAJORITY recommendation: Do pass. Signed by Senators Lovelett, Chair; Salomon, Vice Chair; Torres, Ranking Member; Kauffman and Short.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senator Boehnke, Ranking Member.

January 25, 2024

SB 5973 Prime Sponsor, Senator Liias: Concerning heat pumps in common interest communities. Reported by Committee on Law & Justice

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5973 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Dhingra, Chair; Trudeau, Vice Chair; Padden, Ranking Member; Kuderer; McCune;

January 25, 2024

SB 5941 Prime Sponsor, Senator Wilson, C.: Clarifying requirements for subsidized child care. Reported by Committee

Pedersen; Salomon; Valdez and Wagoner.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senators Torres and Wilson, L.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SB 6009 Prime Sponsor, Senator Trudeau: Prohibiting the use of hog-tying. Reported by Committee on Law & Justice

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 6009 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Dhingra, Chair; Trudeau, Vice Chair; Padden, Ranking Member; Kuderer; McCune; Pedersen; Salomon; Torres; Valdez; Wagoner and Wilson, L.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SB 6010 Prime Sponsor, Senator Shewmake: Streamlining certain decisions pertaining to the development or extension of a trail or path from the state environmental policy act. Reported by Committee on Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 6010 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Lovelett, Chair; Salomon, Vice Chair; Torres, Ranking Member; Kauffman and Short.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SB 6018 Prime Sponsor, Senator Wilson, C.: Designating early learning coordinators at educational service districts. Reported by Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education

MAJORITY recommendation: Do pass. Signed by Senators Wellman, Chair; Nobles, Vice Chair; Wilson, C., Vice Chair; Hunt; Mullet and Pedersen.

MINORITY recommendation: Do not pass. Signed by Senators Hawkins, Ranking Member and McCune.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senator Dozier.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

January 25, 2024

SB 6068 Prime Sponsor, Senator Boehnke: Reporting on dependency outcomes. Reported by Committee on Human Services

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 6068 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Wilson, C., Chair; Kauffman, Vice Chair; Boehnke, Ranking Member; Frame; Nguyen; Warnick and Wilson, J.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

January 25, 2024

SB 6079 Prime Sponsor, Senator Boehnke: Making juvenile detention records available to managed health care systems. Reported by Committee on Human Services

MAJORITY recommendation: Do pass. Signed by Senators Wilson, C., Chair; Kauffman, Vice Chair; Boehnke, Ranking Member; Frame; Nguyen; Warnick and Wilson, J.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SB 6090 Prime Sponsor, Senator Holy: Creating a law enforcement hiring grant program. Reported by Committee on Law & Justice

MAJORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senators Dhingra, Chair; Trudeau, Vice Chair; Padden, Ranking Member; Kuderer; McCune; Pedersen; Salomon; Torres; Valdez; Wagoner and Wilson, L.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

January 25, 2024

SB 6135 Prime Sponsor, Senator Wilson, C.: Concerning programs for eligible recipients of temporary assistance to needy families. Reported by Committee on Human Services

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 6135 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Wilson, C., Chair; Kauffman, Vice Chair; Frame and Nguyen.

MINORITY recommendation: Do not pass. Signed by Senator Boehnke, Ranking Member.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senators Warnick and Wilson, J.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

January 25, 2024

SB 6140 Prime Sponsor, Senator Short: Concerning limited areas of more intensive rural development. Reported by Committee on Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 6140 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Lovelett, Chair; Salomon, Vice Chair; Torres, Ranking Member; Kauffman and Short.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SB 6146 Prime Sponsor, Senator Dhingra: Concerning tribal warrants. Reported by Committee on Law & Justice

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 6146 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Dhingra, Chair; Trudeau, Vice Chair; Kuderer; Pedersen; Salomon and Valdez.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senators Padden, Ranking Member; McCune; Torres; Wagoner and Wilson, L.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

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SB 6181 Prime Sponsor, Senator Liias: Concerning law enforcement officer definition. Reported by Committee on Law & Justice

MAJORITY recommendation: Do pass. Signed by Senators Dhingra, Chair; Trudeau, Vice Chair; Padden, Ranking Member; Kuderer; McCune; Pedersen; Salomon; Torres; Valdez; Wagoner and Wilson, L.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SB 6186 Prime Sponsor, Senator Kauffman: Concerning disclosure of certain recipient locations to the Washington state patrol. Reported by Committee on Human Services

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 6186 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Wilson, C., Chair; Kauffman, Vice Chair; Boehnke, Ranking Member; Frame; Nguyen; Warnick and Wilson, J.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SB 6187 Prime Sponsor, Senator Saldaña: Concerning the body scanner pilot program at the department of corrections. Reported by Committee on Human Services

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 6187 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Wilson, C., Chair; Kauffman, Vice Chair; Frame; Nguyen; Warnick and Wilson, J.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senator Boehnke, Ranking Member.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

January 25, 2024

SB 6189 Prime Sponsor, Senator Saldaña: Concerning transparency, public safety, and independent oversight of the city, county, and regional jail system in Washington state. Reported by Committee on Human Services

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 6189 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Wilson, C., Chair; Kauffman, Vice Chair; Frame and Nguyen.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senators Boehnke, Ranking Member; Warnick and Wilson, J.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

January 25, 2024

SB 6194 Prime Sponsor, Senator Stanford: Concerning state legislative employee collective bargaining. Reported by Committee on Labor & Commerce

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 6194 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do

pass. Signed by Senators Keiser, Chair; Conway, Vice Chair; Saldaña, Vice Chair; Hansen and Stanford.

MINORITY recommendation: Do not pass. Signed by Senators King, Ranking Member; Braun; MacEwen and Schoesler.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

January 25, 2024

SB 6227 Prime Sponsor, Senator Dhingra: Allowing entry of a civil protection order to protect victims when a person is found not guilty by reason of insanity. Reported by Committee on Law & Justice

MAJORITY recommendation: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 6227 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by Senators Dhingra, Chair; Trudeau, Vice Chair; Padden, Ranking Member; Kuderer; McCune; Pedersen; Salomon; Torres; Valdez; Wagoner and Wilson, L.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SB 6246 Prime Sponsor, Senator Dhingra: Concerning transmission of information relating to firearm prohibitions for persons committed for mental health treatment. Reported by Committee on Law & Justice

MAJORITY recommendation: Do pass. Signed by Senators Dhingra, Chair; Trudeau, Vice Chair; Kuderer; Pedersen; Salomon and Valdez.

MINORITY recommendation: Do not pass. Signed by Senators Padden, Ranking Member; McCune; Torres and Wilson, L.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senator Wagoner.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SB 6271 Prime Sponsor, Senator Keiser: Modifying the cannabis excise tax to consider THC concentration. Reported by Committee on Labor & Commerce

MAJORITY recommendation: Do pass. Signed by Senators Keiser, Chair; Conway, Vice Chair; Saldaña, Vice Chair; Hansen; MacEwen and Stanford.

MINORITY recommendation: Do not pass. Signed by Senator Schoesler.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senators King, Ranking Member and Braun.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SGA 9286 GREG SZABO, appointed on December 16, 2022, for the term ending July 1, 2026, as Member of the Washington State School for the Blind Board of Trustees. Reported by Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education

MAJORITY recommendation: That said appointment be confirmed. Signed by Senators Wellman, Chair; Nobles, Vice Chair; Wilson, C., Vice Chair; Hawkins, Ranking Member; Dozier; Hunt; McCune; Mullet and Pedersen.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SGA 9379 CHRISTOPHER G. SWANSON, appointed on August 1, 2023, for the term ending June 30, 2026, as Member of the Pollution Control/Shorelines Hearings Board. Reported by Committee on Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs

MAJORITY recommendation: That said appointment be confirmed. Signed by Senators Lovelett, Chair; Salomon, Vice Chair; Torres, Ranking Member; Kauffman and Short.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SGA 9413 SCOTT A. MERRIMAN, appointed on January 3, 2024, for the term ending December 31, 2028, as Member of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Reported by Committee on Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks

MAJORITY recommendation: That said appointment be confirmed. Signed by Senators Muzzall, Ranking Member; Van De Wege, Chair; Salomon, Vice Chair; Liias; Shewmake; Short; Stanford; Wagoner and Warnick.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SGA 9430 BRENT L. STARK, reappointed on November 15, 2023, for the term ending July 1, 2028, as Member of the Washington State School for the Blind Board of Trustees. Reported by Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education

MAJORITY recommendation: That said appointment be confirmed. Signed by Senators Wellman, Chair; Nobles, Vice Chair; Wilson, C., Vice Chair; Hawkins, Ranking Member; Dozier; Hunt; McCune; Mullet and Pedersen.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

January 25, 2024

SGA 9434 LILY CLIFTON, reappointed on December 6, 2023, for the term ending July 1, 2028, as Member of the Washington State School for the Blind Board of Trustees. Reported by Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education

MAJORITY recommendation: That said appointment be confirmed. Signed by Senators Wellman, Chair; Nobles, Vice Chair; Wilson, C., Vice Chair; Hawkins, Ranking Member; Dozier; Hunt; McCune; Mullet and Pedersen.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

MOTION

On motion of Senator Pedersen, all measures listed on the Standing Committee report were referred to the committees as designated with the exceptions of Senate Bill No. 5849 and Senate Bill No. 6146 which had been designated to the Committee on Rules and were referred to the Committee on Ways

& Means.

MOTION

On motion of Senator Pedersen, the Senate advanced to the third order of business.

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

CERTIFICATION OF INITIATIVE TO THE LEGISLATURE I-2124

Pursuant to Article II, Section 1 of the Washington State Constitution, RCW 29A.72.230, and WAC 434- 379-010, the Office of the Secretary of State has caused the signatures submitted in support of Initiative to the Legislature No. 2124 to be examined in the following manner:

1. It was determined that 427,481 signatures were submitted by the sponsors of the initiative. A random sample of 12,825 signatures was taken from those submitted;
2. Each sampled signature was examined to determine if the signer was a registered voter of the state, if the signature was reasonably similar to the one appearing on the record of that voter, and if the same signature appeared more than once in the sample. We found 10,552 valid signatures, 2,259 signatures that were invalid and 14 pairs of duplicated signatures in the sample;
3. We calculated an allowance for the chance error of sampling (71) by multiplying the square root of the number of invalid signatures by 1.5;
4. We estimated the upper limit of the number of signatures on the initiative petition which were invalid (77,673) by dividing the sum of the number of invalid signatures in the sample and allowance for the chance of error of sampling by the sampling ratio;
5. We determined the maximum allowable number of duplicate pairs of signatures on the petition (25,292) by subtracting the sum of the number of signatures required by Article 11, Section 1 of the Washington State Constitution (324,516) and the estimate of the upper limit of the number of invalid signatures on the petition from the number of signatures submitted;
6. We determined the expected number of duplicate pairs of signatures in the sample (23) by multiplying the square of the sampling ratio by the maximum allowable number of pairs of signatures on the initiative petition;
7. We determined the acceptable number of duplicate pairs of signatures in the sample (15) by subtracting 1.65 times the square root of the expected number of pairs of signatures in the sample from the expected number of pairs of signatures in the sample; and
8. The number of duplicate pairs of signatures in the sample is less than the acceptable number of duplicate pairs of signatures in the sample.

Therefore, I hereby declare Initiative to the Legislature No. 2124 to contain sufficient signatures.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the State of Washington this 25th day of January, 2024.

/s/Steve Hobbs
STEVE HOBBS
Secretary of State

[seal]

NINETEENTH DAY, JANUARY 26, 2024

2024 REGULAR SESSION

Bob Ferguson
 ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON
 Administration Division
 PO Box 40100 • Olympia, WA 98504-0100 • (360) 753-6200

June 27, 2023

The Honorable Steve Hobbs
 Elections Division
 ATTN: Initiative and Referendum
 PO Box 40220
 Olympia, WA 98504-0220

Re: Initiative No. 2124

Dear Secretary Hobbs:

Pursuant to RCW 29A.72.060, we supply herewith the ballot title and ballot measure summary for Initiative No. 2124 to the Legislature an (act relating to an act relating to all Washington workers having the choice to opt out of the government-operated long term insurance scheme).

BALLOT TITLE

Statement of Subject: Initiative Measure No. 2124 concerns state long term care insurance.

Concise Description: This measure would provide that employees and self-employed people must elect to keep coverage under RCW 50B.04 and could opt-out any time. It would also repeal a law governing an exemption for employees.

Should this measure be enacted into law? Yes [] No []

BALLOT MEASURE SUMMARY

This measure would amend state law establishing a state long term care insurance program to provide that employees and self-employed people must elect to keep coverage under RCW 50B.04 allow employees to opt-out of coverage under RCW 50B.04 at any time, and repeal a current law governing exemptions for employees who had purchased long term care insurance before November 1, 2021.

Sincerely,
s/Karl D. Smith
 KARLD. SMITH
 Deputy Solicitor General

Initiative Measure No. 2124
 June 13, 2023

**OPT OUT OF STATE-RUN LONG TERM CARE
 COVERAGE ACT**

AN ACT Relating to all Washington workers having the choice to opt out of the government-operated long term insurance scheme; amending RCW 50B.04.090; creating new sections; and repealing RCW 50B.04.085.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

Sec. 1. RCW 50B.04.090 and 2022 c 1 s 6 are each amended to read as follows:

- (1) Beginning July 1, 2023, and subject to the protections established by subsection 8 of this section, any self-employed person, including a sole proprietor, independent contractor, partner, or joint venturer, may elect coverage under this chapter. Coverage must be elected before July 1, 2026, or within three years of becoming self-employed for the first time. Those electing coverage under this subsection are responsible for payment of 100 percent of all premiums assessed to an employee under RCW 50B.04.080. The self-employed person must file a notice of election in writing with the employment security department, in the manner required by the employment security department in rule. The self-employed person is eligible for benefits after paying the long-term services and supports premium for the time required under RCW 50B.04.050.
- (2) A self-employed person who has elected coverage may not withdraw from coverage unless they opt out under subsection 8 of this section.
- (3) A self-employed person who elects coverage must continue to pay premiums until such time that the individual retires from the workforce or is no longer self-employed or they opt out under subsection 8 of this section. To cease premium assessment and collection, the self-employed person must file a notice with the employment security department if the individual retires from the workforce or is no longer self-employed or they opt out under subsection 8 of this section.
- (4) The employment security department may cancel elective coverage if the self-employed person fails to make required payments or file reports. The employment security department may collect due and unpaid premiums and may levy an additional premium for the remainder of the period of coverage. The cancellation must be effective no later than 30 days from the date of the notice in writing advising the self-employed person of the cancellation.
- (5) Those electing coverage are considered employers or employees where the context so dictates.
- (6) For the purposes of this section, "independent contractor" means an individual excluded from the definition of "employment" in RCW 50B.04.010.
- (7) The employment security department shall adopt rules for determining the hours worked and the wages of individuals who elect coverage under this section and rules for enforcement of this section.
- (8) An employee or self-employed person in Washington must elect to keep coverage under this Chapter. If an employee or self-employed person has elected coverage under this Chapter, the employee or self-employed person must also have the option to opt out at any time. The employment security department shall adopt rules to implement this section.

Sec. 2. RCW 50B.04.085 (Premium assessment-Exemptions) and 2021 c 113 s 5 & 2020 c 98 s 7 are each repealed.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The provisions of this act are to be liberally construed to effectuate the policies, purposes, and intent of this act.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

MESSAGE FROM OTHER STATE OFFICERS

The following reports were submitted to and received by the office of the Secretary of the Senate:

Commerce, Department of - "Pew Report" -

Recommendations to Increase Retirement Savings in Washington", in accordance with Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 5187;

Health Care Authority - "*Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Pilot Program*", in accordance with Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 5187 71.24.589 RCW; "*Substance Use and Recovery Services Plan*", in accordance with Engrossed Senate Bill No. 5476 and pursuant to 71.24.546 RCW; "*Intensive Outpatient and Partial Hospitalization Services Progress Report*", in accordance with Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 5187; "*Safe Supply Work Group Preliminary Report*", in accordance with Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 5187; "*Create and Expand Housing Supports for Adults with Behavioral Health Conditions*", in accordance with Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 5187; "*Statewide SUD Prevalence and Cross-Sector Interactions: Inventory of Data and Reporting Capabilities Preliminary Report*", in accordance with Second Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill No. 5536; "*Behavioral Health Emergency Response and Coordination Services Pilot; Implementing Effective, Integrated, and Coordinated Services*", in accordance with Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 5187; "*Behavioral Health Emergency Response and Coordination Services Pilot; Implementing Effective, Integrated, and Coordinated Services*", in accordance with Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 5693; "*Community Health Worker Grant Program Update; Initial Report*", in accordance with Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 5187; "*Apple Health and Homes; Program Launch Plan*", in accordance with Engrossed Substitute House Bill No. 1866; "*Diabetes Epidemic and Action Report*", pursuant to 70.330.020 RCW;

Health, Department of - "*Health Equity Zones*", pursuant to 43.70.595 RCW; "*Nursing Assistant Alternative Training, 2023 Report*", pursuant to 18.88A.087 RCW; "*Healthcare-Associated Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance Program*", pursuant to 43.70.056 RCW;

Social & Health Services, Department of - "*Epidemic Disease Preparedness and Response for Long-term Care Annual Report*", pursuant to 70.01.070 RCW; "*Language Access Work Group*", in accordance with Substitute Senate Bill No. 5304; "*Transition Care Management*", in accordance with Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 5693;

Transportation, Department of - "*Lower Snake River Dams Transportation Study*", in accordance with Engrossed Substitute House Bill No. 1125;

Washington State University - "*WSU Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program Report*", pursuant to 28B.30.360 RCW;

Washington Technology Solutions - "*IT Biennial Report*", pursuant to 43.105.220 RCW; "*IT Biennial Report Letter of Transmittal*", pursuant to 43.105.220 RCW.

MOTION

On motion of Senator Pedersen, the Senate advanced to the fourth order of business.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

January 25, 2024

MR. PRESIDENT:

The House has passed:

ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL NO. 1037,
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL NO. 1044,
HOUSE BILL NO. 1530,
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL NO. 1851,
HOUSE BILL NO. 1898,
HOUSE BILL NO. 1950,

HOUSE BILL NO. 1954,
HOUSE BILL NO. 2032,

and the same are herewith transmitted.

MELISSA PALMER, Deputy Chief Clerk

January 25, 2024

MR. PRESIDENT:

The House has passed:

ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL NO. 1097,
ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL NO. 1608,
ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE
HOUSE BILL NO. 1618,

and the same are herewith transmitted.

BERNARD DEAN, Chief Clerk

MOTION

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

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF HOUSE BILLS

ESHB 1037 by House Committee on Civil Rights & Judiciary (originally sponsored by Walsh)

AN ACT Relating to family burial grounds on privately owned property; amending RCW 68.05.400, 68.20.010, 68.20.140, and 68.50.130; adding a new section to chapter 68.04 RCW; and adding a new chapter to Title 68 RCW.

Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

SHB 1044 by House Committee on Capital Budget (originally sponsored by Representatives McEntire, Graham, Couture, Sandlin, Walsh, Rude, Caldier and Santos)

AN ACT Relating to capital financial assistance to small school districts with demonstrated funding challenges; amending RCW 28A.525.159; adding a new section to chapter 28A.525 RCW; and creating a new section.

Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

HB 1226 by Representative Fitzgibbon; by request of Department of Fish and Wildlife

AN ACT Relating to providing for recreational licensing of smelt, crawfish, and carp; amending RCW 77.32.010; and creating a new section.

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks.

E2SHB 1272 by House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Bergquist, Volz, Reeves, Gregerson, Christian, Riccelli and Schmidt)

AN ACT Relating to publishing, formatting, and distribution of the state and local voters' pamphlets; amending RCW 29A.32.010, 29A.32.020, 29A.32.031, 29A.32.060, 29A.32.070, 29A.32.090, 29A.32.110, 29A.32.121, 29A.32.210, 29A.32.220, 29A.32.230, 29A.32.241, 29A.32.250, 29A.32.260, and 29A.32.280; and providing an effective date.

Referred to Committee on State Government & Elections.

NINETEENTH DAY, JANUARY 26, 2024

2024 REGULAR SESSION

HB 1530 by Representatives Cortes, Mena, Simmons, Ryu, Davis and Fosse

AN ACT Relating to expanding eligibility for employment to lawful permanent residents for positions with general authority Washington law enforcement agencies, limited authority Washington law enforcement agencies, and prosecuting attorney offices; amending RCW 36.27.040; and adding a new section to chapter 10.93 RCW.

Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

ESHB 1637 by House Committee on Civil Rights & Judiciary (originally sponsored by Representatives Orwall, Pollet and Fitzgibbon)

AN ACT Relating to prohibiting excessive fees or other charges for locating or recovering foreclosure surplus funds and other unclaimed property; amending RCW 61.24.135; adding a new section to chapter 61.12 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 63.30 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

SHB 1851 by House Committee on Appropriations (Representatives Callan, Macri, Bergquist and Gregerson)

AN ACT Relating to implementation of a sustainable funding model for the services provided through the first approach skills training program; and amending RCW 71.24.061, 71.24.063, and 71.24.064.

Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

HB 1898 by Representatives Schmidt, Fosse, Connors, Berry, Bronoske, Abbarno, Ormsby, Volz, Leavitt, Low, Reed, Graham, Kloba and Reeves; by request of Employment Security Department

AN ACT Relating to unemployment insurance benefit charging; amending RCW 50.12.200; and reenacting and amending RCW 50.29.021.

Referred to Committee on Labor & Commerce.

HB 1950 by Representatives Slatter, Ybarra, Reed, Jacobsen, Pollet, Leavitt, Ortiz-Self, Ramos, Morgan, Simmons, Ormsby, Callan, Street, Paul, Goodman, Thai, Lekanoff, Reeves and Riccelli; by request of Office of Financial Management

AN ACT Relating to the public service loan forgiveness program; and amending RCW 41.04.045, 41.04.055, and 43.41.425.

Referred to Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Development.

HB 1954 by Representatives Riccelli, Bateman, Ramel, Reed, Simmons, Ormsby, Macri, Doglio, Thai, Lekanoff and Reeves

AN ACT Relating to harmonizing statutory language relating to lawful participation in reproductive health care services or gender-affirming treatment; and amending RCW 18.130.450.

Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

HB 2032 by Representatives Cheney, Low, Ramos and Graham

AN ACT Relating to reducing the size of yard signs that are exempt from certain political advertising disclosure requirements; and amending RCW 42.17A.320.

Referred to Committee on State Government & Elections.

MOTIONS

On motion of Senator Pedersen, all measures listed on the Introduction and First Reading report were referred to the committees as designated.

On motion of Senator Pedersen, the Senate advanced to the eighth order of business.

Senator Dhingra moved adoption of the following resolution:

SENATE RESOLUTION

8663

By Senators Dhingra, Stanford, Nobles, Salomon, Wagoner, Cleveland, Hunt, Lovick, J. Wilson, C. Wilson, Warnick, Valdez, Wellman, Lovelett, Braun, and Torres

WHEREAS, January 26, 2024, marks the 75th Republic Day in India, commemorating the effective adoption of the Constitution of the world's largest democracy; and

WHEREAS, India solidified their achievement of independence from British rule through peaceful and nonviolent resistance; and

WHEREAS, India's Constitution requires equality under the law, and declares "that the State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India"; and

WHEREAS, India has a strong tradition of maintaining democratic ideals through robust checks on those in power; and

WHEREAS, Washington state has many cultural and economic ties to India, including more than 100,000 Indian Americans living in the state; and

WHEREAS, Indian Americans are small business owners, entrepreneurs, and CEOs of Washington companies, including the founding officers of many Washington-based tech companies; and

WHEREAS, These businesses provide useful services, resources, and jobs to the people of this state; and

WHEREAS, Indian Americans have been emigrating to the West Coast since the 19th century, working in our most vital industries including agriculture, lodging, and trade; and

WHEREAS, Indian Americans reflect the values of inclusion and pluralism through their many cultural and religious identities, including Muslim, Sikh, and Hindu; and

WHEREAS, Indian Americans serve selflessly in our armed forces and in law enforcement, and contribute profoundly to the health care industry and Washington's institutions of higher education;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate honor the 2024 Republic Day of India as a symbol of the shared values of democracy, diversity, and inclusion between the nation of India and both the State of Washington and the United States of America.

Senators Dhingra and Wagoner spoke in favor of adoption of the resolution.

The President declared the question before the Senate to be the adoption of Senate Resolution No. 8663.

The motion by Senator Dhingra carried and the resolution was adopted by voice vote.

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

adjourned until 12:30 p.m. Monday, January 29, 2024.

The President welcomed and introduced members and representatives of the Indian-American and Indian community who were seated in the gallery.

DENNY HECK, President of the Senate

SARAH BANNISTER, Secretary of the Senate

MOTION

At 12:39 p.m., on motion of Senator Pedersen, the Senate

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