

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## HB 1812

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**As Reported by House Committee On:**  
State Government, Elections & Information Technology

**Title:** An act relating to the state fungi.

**Brief Description:** Designating the pine mushroom as the official state fungi.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Dolan, Koster, Farrell, Robinson, Blake, Griffey, Muri, Doglio, Stanford, Frame, Sawyer, Lovick and Santos.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:**

State Government, Elections & Information Technology: 2/15/17 [DP].

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Designates the pine mushroom as the official Washington state fungi.

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### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, ELECTIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

**Majority Report:** Do pass. Signed by 9 members: Representatives Hudgins, Chair; Dolan, Vice Chair; Koster, Ranking Minority Member; Volz, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Appleton, Gregerson, Irwin, Kraft and Pellicciotti.

**Staff:** Megan Palchak (786-7105).

**Background:**

General provisions of state law designate official Washington items, such as the state bird (willow goldfinch) and official marine mammal (orca).

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**Summary of Bill:**

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

The Legislature recognizes that the pine mushroom has an integral relationship with state forests, is an important part of the ecosystem, and is sought after for its distinct smell and delicious flavor. This act designates the pine mushroom as the official Washington state fungi.

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**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony:**

(In support) The pine mushroom is an important symbol for the state. As a rare fungus that has a symbiotic relationship with trees, the pine mushroom supports increased tree growth and healthy forests, as well as tourism and trade. It has special significance in Salish and Japanese culture and represents the state's history, as part of its logging heritage.

(Opposed) None.

**Persons Testifying:** Representative Dolan, prime sponsor; Matthew Hurley; and Emily Hall.

**Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying:** None.