
**Community Development, Housing &
Tribal Affairs Committee**

HB 2007

Brief Description: Making provisions to commemorate the centennial of national women's suffrage.

Sponsors: Representatives Kagi, Appleton, Hudgins, Jinkins, Johnson, Kilduff, Senn, Tarleton, Frame, Stonier, Stambaugh, Lytton, Macri, Robinson, Ormsby, Doglio, Slatter and Pollet.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Requires the Washington Women's History Consortium to prepare for a 2020 statewide commemoration of women's right to vote.

Hearing Date: 2/15/17

Staff: Kirsten Lee (786-7133).

Background:

Washington Women's History Consortium.

The Washington Women's History Consortium (Consortium) is responsible for:

- compiling an index of existing historical relevant materials;
- identifying topics, historical periods, materials, or activities not well represented in public collections;
- encouraging collection and preservation of materials important to understanding Washington's women's history;
- referring potential donors of historical materials to appropriate agencies and organizations throughout the state;
- developing protocol for the protection of historically relevant materials;
- encouraging development and sharing among member organizations;
- encouraging public and educational access to women's history information;
- seeking private donations;

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- developing a concept for a grant program;
- developing a volunteer program; and
- encouraging development of curriculum materials.

The consortium is managed by a 15-member board of advisors, consisting of 11 members representing a wide range of perspectives; including private citizens, business, labor, historical societies, colleges and universities, educators, tribes, and public officials, and four legislative members.

In 2010 the Consortium sponsored and coordinated activities for a statewide commemoration of the centennial of Washington state women's right to vote.

Summary of Bill:

The Consortium must provide leadership for the 2020 statewide commemoration of the centennial of the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution and immediately begin preparing for the statewide commemoration with activities including:

- consulting with organizations, public agencies, and the public about the content and conduct of the statewide commemoration;
- developing and encouraging others to develop educational opportunities to learn about the leadership role of Washingtonians in achieving the nationwide right to vote for women, the importance of women gaining the right to vote, and the long-term impacts of women gaining the right to vote; and
- planning, coordinating, and publicizing events and informational materials throughout the state commemorating the centennial.

The Consortium must also create and distribute, and encourage others to create and distribute, a portfolio of public humanities programs to engage Washington citizens with the women's right to vote movement, encourage private organizations and local governments to organize and participate in activities commemorating the centennial, and administer a grant program for nonprofit organizations.

In order to carry out its duties, the Consortium may appoint task forces or advisory committees, work with staff appointed by the Washington State Historical Society, enter into agreements or contracts, and solicit, accept, use, and dispose of grants and gifts. Legislative members of the Consortium are entitled to travel reimbursement.

The Consortium must report to the Governor and Legislature on the work of the Consortium and provide any recommendations by December 1 each year.

These powers and duties expire July 1, 2021.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

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