
SENATE BILL 6567

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2021 Regular Session

By Senator Frockt

Prefiled 11/25/20.

1 AN ACT Relating to recognizing the eighteenth day of December as
2 blood donor day; reenacting and amending RCW 1.16.050; and creating a
3 new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that with the help
6 of over two hundred fifty thousand registered donors and volunteers
7 in the state, blood centers collect close to one thousand units of
8 blood each day. All blood receives immediate, comprehensive testing
9 so that it can be available to regional hospitals, usually in less
10 than twenty-four hours after donation. About one in seven people
11 entering a hospital need blood. Blood is always needed for treatment
12 of accident victims, cancer patients, hemophiliacs, and surgery
13 patients. Blood cannot be manufactured. Blood is collected at local
14 donor centers and mobile units travel to hundreds of blood drives
15 every month at work sites, schools, places of worship, and other
16 community locations throughout the Pacific Northwest. Blood donation
17 is one of the most significant contributions that a person can make
18 towards our society. When the Amtrak Cascades passenger train 501
19 tragically derailed near Olympia on December 18, 2017, our state came
20 together to save the lives of more than eighty injured passengers. A
21 team comprised of emergency responders, health care providers,

1 ordinary citizens, and blood donors at blood centers throughout the
2 state collected over two thousand units to respond to the lives of
3 those in need. Blood donation is an integral community responsibility
4 that connects all of us in our state. Therefore, it is the intent of
5 the legislature to recognize and celebrate the incredible value of
6 blood donors and blood donations in Washington by designating the
7 eighteenth day of December as blood donor day.

8 **Sec. 2.** RCW 1.16.050 and 2019 c 224 s 2 and 2019 c 10 s 1 are
9 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

10 (1) The following are state legal holidays:

11 (a) Sunday;

12 (b) The first day of January, commonly called New Year's Day;

13 (c) The third Monday of January, celebrated as the anniversary of
14 the birth of Martin Luther King, Jr.;

15 (d) The third Monday of February, to be known as Presidents' Day
16 and celebrated as the anniversary of the births of Abraham Lincoln
17 and George Washington;

18 (e) The last Monday of May, commonly known as Memorial Day;

19 (f) The fourth day of July, the anniversary of the Declaration of
20 Independence;

21 (g) The first Monday in September, to be known as Labor Day;

22 (h) The eleventh day of November, to be known as Veterans' Day;

23 (i) The fourth Thursday in November, to be known as Thanksgiving
24 Day;

25 (j) The Friday immediately following the fourth Thursday in
26 November, to be known as Native American Heritage Day; and

27 (k) The twenty-fifth day of December, commonly called Christmas
28 Day.

29 (2) Employees of the state and its political subdivisions, except
30 employees of school districts and except those nonclassified
31 employees of institutions of higher education who hold appointments
32 or are employed under contracts to perform services for periods of
33 less than twelve consecutive months, are entitled to one paid holiday
34 per calendar year in addition to those specified in this section.
35 Each employee of the state or its political subdivisions may select
36 the day on which the employee desires to take the additional holiday
37 provided for in this section after consultation with the employer
38 pursuant to guidelines to be promulgated by rule of the appropriate

1 personnel authority, or in the case of local government by ordinance
2 or resolution of the legislative authority.

3 (3) Employees of the state and its political subdivisions,
4 including employees of school districts and those nonclassified
5 employees of institutions of higher education who hold appointments
6 or are employed under contracts to perform services for periods of
7 less than twelve consecutive months, are entitled to two unpaid
8 holidays per calendar year for a reason of faith or conscience or an
9 organized activity conducted under the auspices of a religious
10 denomination, church, or religious organization. This includes
11 employees of public institutions of higher education, including
12 community colleges, technical colleges, and workforce training
13 programs. The employee may select the days on which the employee
14 desires to take the two unpaid holidays after consultation with the
15 employer pursuant to guidelines to be promulgated by rule of the
16 appropriate personnel authority, or in the case of local government
17 by ordinance or resolution of the legislative authority. If an
18 employee prefers to take the two unpaid holidays on specific days for
19 a reason of faith or conscience, or an organized activity conducted
20 under the auspices of a religious denomination, church, or religious
21 organization, the employer must allow the employee to do so unless
22 the employee's absence would impose an undue hardship on the employer
23 or the employee is necessary to maintain public safety. Undue
24 hardship shall have the meaning established in rule by the office of
25 financial management under RCW 43.41.109.

26 (4) If any of the state legal holidays specified in this section
27 are also federal legal holidays but observed on different dates, only
28 the state legal holidays are recognized as a paid legal holiday for
29 employees of the state and its political subdivisions. However, for
30 port districts and the law enforcement and public transit employees
31 of municipal corporations, either the federal or the state legal
32 holiday is recognized as a paid legal holiday, but in no case may
33 both holidays be recognized as a paid legal holiday for employees.

34 (5) Whenever any state legal holiday:

35 (a) Other than Sunday, falls upon a Sunday, the following Monday
36 is the legal holiday; or

37 (b) Falls upon a Saturday, the preceding Friday is the legal
38 holiday.

39 (6) Nothing in this section may be construed to have the effect
40 of adding or deleting the number of paid holidays provided for in an

1 agreement between employees and employers of political subdivisions
2 of the state or as established by ordinance or resolution of the
3 local government legislative authority.

4 (7) The legislature declares that the following days are
5 recognized as provided in this subsection, but may not be considered
6 legal holidays for any purpose:

7 (a) The thirteenth day of January, recognized as Korean-American
8 day;

9 (b) The twelfth day of October, recognized as Columbus day;

10 (c) The ninth day of April, recognized as former prisoner of war
11 recognition day;

12 (d) The twenty-sixth day of January, recognized as Washington
13 army and air national guard day;

14 (e) The seventh day of August, recognized as purple heart
15 recipient recognition day;

16 (f) The second Sunday in October, recognized as Washington state
17 children's day;

18 (g) The sixteenth day of April, recognized as Mother Joseph day;

19 (h) The fourth day of September, recognized as Marcus Whitman
20 day;

21 (i) The seventh day of December, recognized as Pearl Harbor
22 remembrance day;

23 (j) The twenty-seventh day of July, recognized as national Korean
24 war veterans armistice day;

25 (k) The nineteenth day of February, recognized as civil liberties
26 day of remembrance;

27 (l) The nineteenth day of June, recognized as Juneteenth, a day
28 of remembrance for the day the slaves learned of their freedom;

29 (m) The thirtieth day of March, recognized as welcome home
30 Vietnam veterans day;

31 (n) The eleventh day of January, recognized as human trafficking
32 awareness day;

33 (o) The thirty-first day of March, recognized as Cesar Chavez
34 day;

35 (p) The tenth day of April, recognized as Dolores Huerta day;
36 ((and))

37 (q) The fourth Saturday of September, recognized as public lands
38 day; and

1 (r) The eighteenth day of December, recognized as blood donor
2 day.

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