
SENATE BILL 6292

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By Senators Trudeau and Salomon

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing Eid al-Fitr and Hannukah as state
2 holidays; and reenacting and amending RCW 1.16.050.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 1.16.050 and 2023 c 387 s 3 and 2023 c 181 s 2 are
5 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

6 (1) The following are state legal holidays:

7 (a) Sunday;

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

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

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

14 (e) The first day of the tenth month of the Islamic calendar, Eid
15 al-Fitr;

16 (f) The last Monday of May, commonly known as Memorial Day;

17 ~~((f))~~ (g) The nineteenth day of June, recognized as Juneteenth,
18 a day of remembrance for the day the African slaves learned of their
19 freedom;

20 ~~((g))~~ (h) The fourth day of July, the anniversary of the
21 Declaration of Independence;

1 (~~(h)~~) (i) The first Monday in September, to be known as Labor
2 Day;

3 (~~(i)~~) (j) The eleventh day of November, to be known as Veterans
4 Day;

5 (~~(j)~~) (k) The fourth Thursday in November, to be known as
6 Thanksgiving Day;

7 (~~(k)~~) (l) The Friday immediately following the fourth Thursday
8 in November, to be known as Native American Heritage Day; (~~and~~

9 ~~(l)~~) (m) The twenty-fifth day of December, commonly called
10 Christmas Day; and

11 (n) The twenty-fifth day of the ninth month of the Hebrew
12 calendar, the first day of Hannukah.

13 (2) Employees of the state and its political subdivisions, except
14 employees of school districts and except those nonclassified
15 employees of institutions of higher education who hold appointments
16 or are employed under contracts to perform services for periods of
17 less than twelve consecutive months, are entitled to one paid holiday
18 per calendar year in addition to those specified in this section.
19 Each employee of the state or its political subdivisions may select
20 the day on which the employee desires to take the additional holiday
21 provided for in this section after consultation with the employer
22 pursuant to guidelines to be promulgated by rule of the appropriate
23 personnel authority, or in the case of local government by ordinance
24 or resolution of the legislative authority.

25 (3) Employees of the state and its political subdivisions,
26 including employees of school districts and those nonclassified
27 employees of institutions of higher education who hold appointments
28 or are employed under contracts to perform services for periods of
29 less than twelve consecutive months, are entitled to two unpaid
30 holidays per calendar year for a reason of faith or conscience or an
31 organized activity conducted under the auspices of a religious
32 denomination, church, or religious organization. This includes
33 employees of public institutions of higher education, including
34 community colleges, technical colleges, and workforce training
35 programs. The employee may select the days on which the employee
36 desires to take the two unpaid holidays after consultation with the
37 employer pursuant to guidelines to be promulgated by rule of the
38 appropriate personnel authority, or in the case of local government
39 by ordinance or resolution of the legislative authority. If an
40 employee prefers to take the two unpaid holidays on specific days for

1 a reason of faith or conscience, or an organized activity conducted
2 under the auspices of a religious denomination, church, or religious
3 organization, the employer must allow the employee to do so unless
4 the employee's absence would impose an undue hardship on the employer
5 or the employee is necessary to maintain public safety. Undue
6 hardship shall have the meaning established in rule by the office of
7 financial management under RCW 43.41.109.

8 (4) If any of the state legal holidays specified in this section
9 are also federal legal holidays but observed on different dates, only
10 the state legal holidays are recognized as a paid legal holiday for
11 employees of the state and its political subdivisions. However, for
12 port districts and the law enforcement and public transit employees
13 of municipal corporations, either the federal or the state legal
14 holiday is recognized as a paid legal holiday, but in no case may
15 both holidays be recognized as a paid legal holiday for employees.

16 (5) Whenever any state legal holiday:

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

19 (b) Falls upon a Saturday, the preceding Friday is the legal
20 holiday.

21 (6) Nothing in this section may be construed to have the effect
22 of adding or deleting the number of paid holidays provided for in an
23 agreement between employees and employers of political subdivisions
24 of the state or as established by ordinance or resolution of the
25 local government legislative authority.

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

29 (a) The thirteenth day of January, recognized as Korean-American
30 day;

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

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

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

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

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

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

- 1 (h) The fourth day of September, recognized as Marcus Whitman
2 day;
- 3 (i) The seventh day of December, recognized as Pearl Harbor
4 remembrance day;
- 5 (j) The twenty-seventh day of July, recognized as national Korean
6 war veterans armistice day;
- 7 (k) The nineteenth day of February, recognized as civil liberties
8 day of remembrance;
- 9 (l) The thirtieth day of March, recognized as welcome home
10 Vietnam veterans day;
- 11 (m) The eleventh day of January, recognized as human trafficking
12 awareness day;
- 13 (n) The thirty-first day of March, recognized as Cesar Chavez
14 day;
- 15 (o) The tenth day of April, recognized as Dolores Huerta day;
- 16 (p) The fourth Saturday of September, recognized as public lands
17 day;
- 18 (q) The eighteenth day of December, recognized as blood donor
19 day;
- 20 (r) The fifteenth day of May, recognized as water safety day; and
21 (s) The ninth day of March, recognized as Billy Frank Jr. day.

--- END ---