Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

State Government & Tribal Affairs Committee

HB 2701

Brief Description: Clarifying the time of commencement of regular legislative sessions.

Sponsors: Representative Taylor.

Brief Summary of Bill

• Codifying that the regular sessions of the legislature commences annually at noon.

Hearing Date: 1/22/10

Staff: Tracey O'Brien (786-7196).

Background:

Article II, Section 12 of the Washington Constitution specifies that a regular session of the Legislature must be convened each year. The specific day and time must be designated by Legislature in statute. During an odd-numbered year, the regular session shall not be more than 105 consecutive days. During an even-numbered year, the regular session shall not be more than 60 consecutive days.

The Legislature has designated the second Monday of January to be the first day of the annual regular session.

Summary of Bill:

The current statute is updated to codify a noon start time for the first day of the annual regular session.

Appropriation: None.

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.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

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