
SENATE BILL 5265

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Senators Zeiger, Hunt, Bailey, and Hawkins

1 AN ACT Relating to encouraging the role of volunteerism within
2 state government; creating new sections; and providing an expiration
3 date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that volunteers play
6 an important role in enriching our communities. This is true not only
7 for society at large, but also within state government specifically.
8 Volunteering not only produces positive results for the recipients of
9 the efforts, but for the volunteers themselves, who are rewarded with
10 new life experiences and a greater connection to their community.

11 The legislature further finds while many individuals from the
12 baby boomer generation are leaving the workforce, many are still
13 seeking way ways to contribute and make a difference in their
14 communities, and volunteering provides one such pathway.

15 Therefore, the legislature intends that a thorough review be
16 conducted that examines the existing role of volunteering within
17 state government and considers ways to increase and expand volunteer
18 opportunities.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The joint legislative audit and review
2 committee must conduct a review of volunteer opportunities within
3 state government. The review must include:

4 (a) An inventory of existing state government volunteer programs.
5 Agencies and programs that must be examined include, but are not
6 limited to, the Washington state parks and recreation commission, the
7 department of fish and wildlife, the Washington military department,
8 state mental hospital programs, state developmental disability
9 programs, and state litter clean-up programs;

10 (b) The costs and benefits of volunteer programs;

11 (c) The need for additional volunteers in existing programs;

12 (d) Additional agencies that could accommodate volunteers in the
13 future; and

14 (e) Recommendations to encourage more volunteerism within state
15 government.

16 (2) By December 31, 2019, the joint legislative audit and review
17 committee must submit a report that presents information and findings
18 from the review conducted under this section to the appropriate
19 committees of the senate and house of representatives.

20 (3) This section expires December 31, 2019.

--- END ---