<u>SSB 6724</u> - S AMD 151 By Senator Fairley

ADOPTED 02/15/2010

Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the following:

3 "Sec. 1. RCW 41.04.665 and 2008 c 36 s 3 are each amended to read 4 as follows:

5 (1) An agency head may permit an employee to receive leave under 6 this section if:

7 (a)(i) The employee suffers from, or has a relative or household 8 member suffering from, an illness, injury, impairment, or physical or 9 mental condition which is of an extraordinary or severe nature;

10 (ii) The employee has been called to service in the uniformed 11 services;

(iii) A state of emergency has been declared anywhere within the United States by the federal or any state government and the employee has needed skills to assist in responding to the emergency or its aftermath and volunteers his or her services to either a governmental agency or to a nonprofit organization engaged in humanitarian relief in the devastated area, and the governmental agency or nonprofit organization accepts the employee's offer of volunteer services; or

(iv) The employee is a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault,or stalking;

(b) The illness, injury, impairment, condition, call to service, emergency volunteer service, or consequence of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking has caused, or is likely to cause, the employee to:

25 (i) Go on leave without pay status; or

26 (ii) Terminate state employment;

27 (c) The employee's absence and the use of shared leave are 28 justified;

29 (d) The employee has depleted or will shortly deplete his or her:

(i) Annual leave and sick leave reserves if he or she qualifies
 under (a)(i) of this subsection;

3 (ii) Annual leave and paid military leave allowed under RCW
4 38.40.060 if he or she qualifies under (a)(ii) of this subsection; or
5 (iii) Annual leave if he or she qualifies under (a)(iii) or (iv) of

6 this subsection;

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(e) The employee has abided by agency rules regarding:

8 (i) Sick leave use if he or she qualifies under (a)(i) or (iv) of 9 this subsection; or

10 (ii) Military leave if he or she qualifies under (a)(ii) of this 11 subsection; and

(f) The employee has diligently pursued and been found to be ineligible for benefits under chapter 51.32 RCW if he or she qualifies under (a)(i) of this subsection.

- (2) The agency head shall determine the amount of leave, if any, 15 which an employee may receive under this section. However, an employee 16 17 shall not receive a total of more than ((two hundred sixty-one)) the following number of days of leave((, except that)): (a) For an 18 19 employee with fewer than ten years of service, two hundred sixty-one days; (b) for an employee with at least ten but fewer than twenty years 20 21 of service, five hundred twenty-two days; and (c) for an employee with twenty or more years of service, seven hundred eighty-three days. 22 23 Shared leave received under the uniformed service shared leave pool in 24 RCW 41.04.685 is not ((included in this total)) subject to the limitations under (a) through (c) of this subsection. 25
- 26 (3) An employee may transfer annual leave, sick leave, and his or 27 her personal holiday, as follows:
- (a) An employee who has an accrued annual leave balance of more 28 than ten days may request that the head of the agency for which the 29 employee works transfer a specified amount of annual leave to another 30 employee authorized to receive leave under subsection (1) of this 31 32 section. In no event may the employee request a transfer of an amount of leave that would result in his or her annual leave account going 33 below ten days. For purposes of this subsection (3)(a), annual leave 34 35 does not accrue if the employee receives compensation in lieu of 36 accumulating a balance of annual leave.
- 37 (b) An employee may transfer a specified amount of sick leave to an

1 employee requesting shared leave only when the donating employee 2 retains a minimum of one hundred seventy-six hours of sick leave after 3 the transfer.

4 (c) An employee may transfer, under the provisions of this section 5 relating to the transfer of leave, all or part of his or her personal 6 holiday, as that term is defined under RCW 1.16.050, or as such 7 holidays are provided to employees by agreement with a school 8 district's board of directors if the leave transferred under this 9 subsection does not exceed the amount of time provided for personal 10 holidays under RCW 1.16.050.

11 (4) An employee of an institution of higher education under RCW 12 28B.10.016, school district, or educational service district who does 13 not accrue annual leave but does accrue sick leave and who has an accrued sick leave balance of more than twenty-two days may request 14 that the head of the agency for which the employee works transfer a 15 specified amount of sick leave to another employee authorized to 16 receive leave under subsection (1) of this section. In no event may 17 such an employee request a transfer that would result in his or her 18 sick leave account going below twenty-two days. Transfers of sick 19 leave under this subsection are limited to transfers from employees who 20 21 do not accrue annual leave. Under this subsection, "sick leave" also 22 includes leave accrued pursuant to RCW 28A.400.300(2) or 28A.310.240(1) 23 with compensation for illness, injury, and emergencies.

(5) Transfers of leave made by an agency head under subsections (3)and (4) of this section shall not exceed the requested amount.

(6) Leave transferred under this section may be transferred from employees of one agency to an employee of the same agency or, with the approval of the heads of both agencies, to an employee of another state agency. ((However, leave transferred to or from employees of school districts or educational service districts is limited to transfers to or from employees within the same employing district.))

32 (7) While an employee is on leave transferred under this section, 33 he or she shall continue to be classified as a state employee and shall 34 receive the same treatment in respect to salary, wages, and employee 35 benefits as the employee would normally receive if using accrued annual 36 leave or sick leave.

37 (a) All salary and wage payments made to employees while on leave

1 transferred under this section shall be made by the agency employing 2 the person receiving the leave. The value of leave transferred shall 3 be based upon the leave value of the person receiving the leave.

4 (b) In the case of leave transferred by an employee of one agency 5 to an employee of another agency, the agencies involved shall arrange 6 for the transfer of funds and credit for the appropriate value of 7 leave.

8 (i) Pursuant to rules adopted by the office of financial 9 management, funds shall not be transferred under this section if the 10 transfer would violate any constitutional or statutory restrictions on 11 the funds being transferred.

12 (ii) The office of financial management may adjust the 13 appropriation authority of an agency receiving funds under this section 14 only if and to the extent that the agency's existing appropriation 15 authority would prevent it from expending the funds received.

(iii) Where any questions arise in the transfer of funds or the
 adjustment of appropriation authority, the director of financial
 management shall determine the appropriate transfer or adjustment.

19 (8) Leave transferred under this section shall not be used in any 20 calculation to determine an agency's allocation of full time equivalent 21 staff positions.

(9) The value of any leave transferred under this section which 22 23 remains unused shall be returned at its original value to the employee 24 or employees who transferred the leave when the agency head finds that the leave is no longer needed or will not be needed at a future time in 25 26 connection with the illness or injury for which the leave was 27 transferred or for any other qualifying condition. Before the agency head makes a determination to return unused leave in connection with an 28 29 illness or injury, or any other qualifying condition, he or she must 30 receive from the affected employee a statement from the employee's doctor verifying that the illness or injury is resolved. To the extent 31 administratively feasible, the value of unused leave which was 32 transferred by more than one employee shall be returned on a pro rata 33 basis. 34

35 (10) An employee who uses leave that is transferred to him or her 36 under this section may not be required to repay the value of the leave 37 that he or she used. (11) The director of personnel may adopt rules as necessary to
 implement subsection (2)(a) through (c) of this section.

3 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 2. This act is necessary for the immediate 4 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the 5 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect 6 immediately."

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7 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "Relating to" strike the 8 remainder of the title and insert "the leave sharing program; amending 9 RCW 41.04.665; and declaring an emergency."

<u>EFFECT:</u> Incorporates a provision amending the calculation of leave an employee is eligible to receive to correspond with the employee's service years. Authorizes the director of personnel to adopt rules as necessary to implement these changes. Authorizes school district and educational service district employees to transfer and share leave with employees from another agency. Amends title to reflect the added provision. Adds an emergency clause.

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