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## SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5838

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State of Washington 56th Legislature 1999 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Senators McAuliffe, Eide and Rasmussen)

Read first time 03/03/1999.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to personal holiday leave sharing for school
- 2 district employees; and amending RCW 41.04.665.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 41.04.665 and 1996 c 176 s 1 are each amended to read 5 as follows:
- 6 (1) An agency head may permit an employee to receive leave under 7 this section if:
- 8 (a) The employee suffers from, or has a relative or household
- 9 member suffering from, an illness, injury, impairment, or physical or
- 10 mental condition which is of an extraordinary or severe nature and
- 11 which has caused, or is likely to cause, the employee to:
- (i) Go on leave without pay status; or
- 13 (ii) Terminate state employment;
- 14 (b) The employee's absence and the use of shared leave are
- 15 justified;
- 16 (c) The employee has depleted or will shortly deplete his or her
- 17 annual leave and sick leave reserves;
- 18 (d) The employee has abided by agency rules regarding sick leave
- 19 use; and

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- (e) The employee has diligently pursued and been found to be 1 ineligible for benefits under chapter 51.32 RCW. 2
- 3 (2) The agency head shall determine the amount of leave, if any, 4 which an employee may receive under this section. However, an employee shall not receive a total of more than two hundred sixty-one days of leave.

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- 7 (3) An employee may transfer annual leave, sick leave, and his or 8 her personal holiday, as follows:
- 9 (a) An employee who has an accrued annual leave balance of more than ten days may request that the head of the agency for which the 10 employee works transfer a specified amount of annual leave to another 11 employee authorized to receive leave under subsection (1) of this 12 13 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 14 15 below ten days. For purposes of this subsection (3)(a), annual leave does not accrue if the employee receives compensation in lieu of 16 17 accumulating a balance of annual leave.
- (b) An employee may transfer a specified amount of sick leave to an 18 19 employee requesting shared leave only when the donating employee retains a minimum of four hundred eighty hours of sick leave after the 20 transfer. In no event may such an employee request a transfer of more 21 22 than six days of sick leave during any twelve-month period.
  - (c) An employee may transfer, under the provisions of this section relating to the transfer of leave, all or part of his or her personal holiday, as that term is defined under RCW 1.16.050, ((under the provisions of this section relating to the transfer of leave)) or as such holidays are provided to employees by agreement with a school district's board of directors if the leave transferred under this subsection does not exceed the amount of time provided for personal holidays under RCW 1.16.050.
  - (4) An employee of an institution of higher education under RCW 28B.10.016, school district, or educational service district who does not accrue annual leave but does accrue sick leave and who has an accrued sick leave balance of more than sixty days may request that the head of the agency for which the employee works transfer a specified amount of sick leave to another employee authorized to receive leave under subsection (1) of this section. In no event may such an employee request a transfer of more than six days of sick leave during any twelve month period, or request a transfer that would result in his or

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- l her sick leave account going below sixty days. Transfers of sick leave
- 2 under this subsection are limited to transfers from employees who do
- 3 not accrue annual leave. Under this subsection, "sick leave" also
- 4 includes leave accrued pursuant to RCW 28A.400.300(2) or 28A.310.240(1)
- 5 with compensation for illness, injury, and emergencies.
- 6 (5) Transfers of leave made by an agency head under subsections (3)
- 7 and (4) of this section shall not exceed the requested amount.
- 8 (6) Leave transferred under this section may be transferred from
- 9 employees of one agency to an employee of the same agency or, with the
- 10 approval of the heads of both agencies, to an employee of another state
- 11 agency. However, leave transferred to or from employees of school
- 12 districts or educational service districts is limited to transfers to
- 13 or from employees within the same employing district.
- 14 (7) While an employee is on leave transferred under this section,
- 15 he or she shall continue to be classified as a state employee and shall
- 16 receive the same treatment in respect to salary, wages, and employee
- 17 benefits as the employee would normally receive if using accrued annual
- 18 leave or sick leave.
- 19 (a) All salary and wage payments made to employees while on leave
- 20 transferred under this section shall be made by the agency employing
- 21 the person receiving the leave. The value of leave transferred shall
- 22 be based upon the leave value of the person receiving the leave.
- 23 (b) In the case of leave transferred by an employee of one agency
- 24 to an employee of another agency, the agencies involved shall arrange
- 25 for the transfer of funds and credit for the appropriate value of
- 26 leave.
- 27 (i) Pursuant to rules adopted by the office of financial
- 28 management, funds shall not be transferred under this section if the
- 29 transfer would violate any constitutional or statutory restrictions on
- 30 the funds being transferred.
- 31 (ii) The office of financial management may adjust the
- 32 appropriation authority of an agency receiving funds under this section
- 33 only if and to the extent that the agency's existing appropriation
- 34 authority would prevent it from expending the funds received.
- 35 (iii) Where any questions arise in the transfer of funds or the
- 36 adjustment of appropriation authority, the director of financial
- 37 management shall determine the appropriate transfer or adjustment.

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1 (8) Leave transferred under this section shall not be used in any 2 calculation to determine an agency's allocation of full time equivalent 3 staff positions.

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- (9) The value of any leave transferred under this section which remains unused shall be returned at its original value to the employee 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 connection with the illness or injury for which the leave was transferred. To the extent administratively feasible, the value of unused leave which was transferred by more than one employee shall be returned on a pro rata basis.
- 12 (10) An employee who uses leave that is transferred to him or her 13 under this section may not be required to repay the value of the leave 14 that he or she used.

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