

E2SSB 5659 - H COMM AMD
By Committee on Appropriations

NOT ADOPTED 04/13/2007

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** FINDINGS AND DECLARATIONS. The legislature
4 finds that, although family and medical leave laws have assisted
5 individuals to balance the demands of the workplace with their family
6 responsibilities, more needs to be done to achieve the goals of family
7 care, children and family health, workforce stability, and economic
8 security. In particular, the legislature finds that many individuals
9 do not have access to family and medical leave laws, and those who do
10 may not be in a financial position to take family and medical leave
11 that is unpaid, and that employer-paid benefits meet only a relatively
12 small part of this need. The legislature declares it to be in the
13 public interest to establish a program that: (1) Allows parents to
14 bond with a newborn or newly placed child, and workers to care for
15 seriously ill family members; (2) provides limited and additional
16 income support for a reasonable period while an individual is away from
17 work on family and medical leave; (3) reduces the impact on state
18 income support programs by increasing an individual's ability to
19 provide caregiving services for family members while maintaining an
20 employment relationship; and (4) establishes a wage replacement benefit
21 to be coordinated with current existing state and federal family and
22 medical leave laws."

23 Correct the title.

EFFECT: (1) Finds that more needs to be done to achieve the goals
of family care, children and family health, workforce stability, and

economic security. Also finds that many individuals do not have access to leave, those who do may not be able to afford to take leave, and employer-paid benefits meet only part of this need.

(2) Declares it to be in the public interest to establish a program that: (a) Allows parents to bond with a new child, and workers to care for seriously ill family members; (b) provides income support while an individual is on leave; (c) reduces the impact on certain state programs; and (d) establishes a benefit to be coordinated with existing leave laws.

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