

E2SSB 5659 - H AMD TO H AMD (H-3529.2/07) **862**
By Representative Condotta

FAILED 4/13/2007

1 On page 1, after line 2 of the amendment, strike all of
2 sections 1 through 10 and insert the following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1)(a) The joint legislative task force
4 on family and medical leave insurance is established, with thirteen
5 members as provided in this subsection.

6 (i) The chair and the ranking member of the senate labor,
7 commerce, research and development committee.

8 (ii) The chair and the ranking member of the house commerce and
9 labor committee.

10 (iii) The majority leader of the senate shall appoint one
11 member from each of the two largest caucuses of the senate.

12 (iv) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint
13 one member from each of the two largest caucuses of the house of
14 representatives.

15 (v) The majority leader of the senate and the speaker of the
16 house of representatives jointly shall appoint four nonlegislative
17 members of the task force, which shall include two members
18 representing business and two members representing labor.

19 (vi) The governor shall appoint one member of the task force.

20 (b) One of the legislative members of the task force shall act
21 as the chair for each meeting of the task force. The chair shall
22 alternate between members from the senate and members from the
23 house of representatives. The legislative members of the task
24 force jointly shall convene the initial meeting of the task force.
25 A steering committee consisting of the legislative members of the
26 task force jointly shall plan the meetings and other activities of
27 the task force.

28 (2) The task force shall study the establishment of a family
29 and medical leave insurance program including, but not limited to,
30 the following:

- 1 (a) The purposes of leave for which benefits are payable;
- 2 (b) The manner in which such benefits and the administrative
3 costs should be financed;
- 4 (c) The manner in which the program should be implemented and
5 administered;
- 6 (d) Any government efficiencies which should be adopted to
7 improve program administration and reduce program costs;
- 8 (e) The impacts of the family and medical leave insurance
9 program on the unemployment compensation system, and options for
10 mitigating such impacts; and
- 11 (f) The impacts of the family and medical leave insurance
12 program on the state's business climate and the ability of the
13 state's employers to be competitive in a global economy.
- 14 (3) Staff support for the task force must be provided by the
15 senate committee services and the house of representatives office
16 of program research. The task force may hire additional staff with
17 specific technical expertise if such expertise is necessary to
18 carry out the mandates of this study, and only if an appropriation
19 is specifically provided for this purpose.
- 20 (4) Legislative members of the task force must be reimbursed
21 for travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120.
22 Nonlegislative members, except those representing an employer or
23 organization, are entitled to be reimbursed for travel expenses in
24 accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.
- 25 (5) The expenses of the task force must be paid jointly by the
26 senate and the house of representatives. Task force expenditures
27 are subject to approval by the senate facilities and operations
28 committee and the house of representatives executive rules
29 committee, or their successor committees.
- 30 (6) The task force shall report its findings and
31 recommendations, which shall include proposed legislation, to the
32 legislature by January 1, 2008.
- 33 (7) This section expires July 1, 2009.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate
35 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of
36 the state government and its existing public institutions, and
37 takes effect immediately."

EFFECT: Establishes a 13-member task force (instead of a 12-member task force). Specifies that task force members include:

- The chairs and the ranking members of the Senate Labor, Commerce, Research, and Development Committee and the House Commerce and Labor Committee;
- One member of each of the largest caucuses in the Senate, appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;
- One member of each of the largest caucuses in the House of Representatives, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;
- Two non-legislative members representing business and two non-legislative members representing labor; and
- One gubernatorial appointee.

Specifies that the chair of the task force shall alternate among the legislative members of the task force, and that the legislative members jointly shall plan the meetings and other activities of the task force.

Directs the task force to study the purposes of leave for which benefits are payable, and the impacts of the program on the state's business climate and the ability of the state's employers to be competitive in a global economy.

Deletes sections relating to findings and declarations, definitions, benefits, leave and employment protection, and administrative costs.