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SENATE BILL 6284

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State of Washington

61st Legislature

2010 Regular Session

By Senators Jacobsen, Haugen, and Kohl-Welles

Read first time 01/11/10. Referred to Committee on Government Operations & Elections.

1 AN ACT Relating to Leif Erickson day; reenacting and amending RCW  
2 1.16.050; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that Leif  
5 Erickson was a Norse explorer who is currently regarded as the first  
6 European to land in North America nearly five hundred years before  
7 Christopher Columbus. Leif Erickson and his crew exhibited a  
8 pioneering spirit of courage, determination, and discovery that helped  
9 to open the world to new exploration and unprecedented development. In  
10 1964 the United States congress authorized and requested the president  
11 to proclaim October 9th of each year as Leif Erickson day. That date  
12 was chosen for its connection to the first organized immigration from  
13 Norway to the United States. The ship Restauration, coming from  
14 Stavanger, Norway, arrived in New York Harbor on October 9, 1825.

15 **Sec. 2.** RCW 1.16.050 and 2007 c 61 s 2 and 2007 c 19 s 2 are each  
16 reenacted and amended to read as follows:

17 The following are legal holidays: Sunday; the first day of  
18 January, commonly called New Year's Day; the third Monday of January,

1 being celebrated as the anniversary of the birth of Martin Luther King,  
2 Jr.; the third Monday of February to be known as Presidents' Day and to  
3 be celebrated as the anniversary of the births of Abraham Lincoln and  
4 George Washington; the last Monday of May, commonly known as Memorial  
5 Day; the fourth day of July, being the anniversary of the Declaration  
6 of Independence; the first Monday in September, to be known as Labor  
7 Day; the eleventh day of November, to be known as Veterans' Day; the  
8 fourth Thursday in November, to be known as Thanksgiving Day; the day  
9 immediately following Thanksgiving Day; and the twenty-fifth day of  
10 December, commonly called Christmas Day.

11 Employees of the state and its political subdivisions, except  
12 employees of school districts and except those nonclassified employees  
13 of institutions of higher education who hold appointments or are  
14 employed under contracts to perform services for periods of less than  
15 twelve consecutive months, shall be entitled to one paid holiday per  
16 calendar year in addition to those specified in this section. Each  
17 employee of the state or its political subdivisions may select the day  
18 on which the employee desires to take the additional holiday provided  
19 for herein after consultation with the employer pursuant to guidelines  
20 to be promulgated by rule of the appropriate personnel authority, or in  
21 the case of local government by ordinance or resolution of the  
22 legislative authority.

23 If any of the above specified state legal holidays are also federal  
24 legal holidays but observed on different dates, only the state legal  
25 holidays shall be recognized as a paid legal holiday for employees of  
26 the state and its political subdivisions except that for port districts  
27 and the law enforcement and public transit employees of municipal  
28 corporations, either the federal or the state legal holiday, but in no  
29 case both, may be recognized as a paid legal holiday for employees.

30 Whenever any legal holiday, other than Sunday, falls upon a Sunday,  
31 the following Monday shall be the legal holiday.

32 Whenever any legal holiday falls upon a Saturday, the preceding  
33 Friday shall be the legal holiday.

34 Nothing in this section shall be construed to have the effect of  
35 adding or deleting the number of paid holidays provided for in an  
36 agreement between employees and employers of political subdivisions of  
37 the state or as established by ordinance or resolution of the local  
38 government legislative authority.

1       The legislature declares that the thirteenth day of January shall  
2 be recognized as Korean-American day but shall not be considered a  
3 legal holiday for any purposes.

4       The legislature declares that the twelfth day of October shall be  
5 recognized as Columbus day but shall not be considered a legal holiday  
6 for any purposes.

7       The legislature declares that the ninth day of April shall be  
8 recognized as former prisoner of war recognition day but shall not be  
9 considered a legal holiday for any purposes.

10       The legislature declares that the twenty-sixth day of January shall  
11 be recognized as Washington army and air national guard day but shall  
12 not be considered a legal holiday for any purposes.

13       The legislature declares that the seventh day of August shall be  
14 recognized as purple heart recipient recognition day but shall not be  
15 considered a legal holiday for any purposes.

16       The legislature declares that the second Sunday in October be  
17 recognized as Washington state children's day but shall not be  
18 considered a legal holiday for any purposes.

19       The legislature declares that the sixteenth day of April shall be  
20 recognized as Mother Joseph day and the fourth day of September as  
21 Marcus Whitman day, but neither shall be considered legal holidays for  
22 any purpose.

23       The legislature declares that the seventh day of December be  
24 recognized as Pearl Harbor remembrance day but shall not be considered  
25 a legal holiday for any purpose.

26       The legislature declares that the nineteenth day of February be  
27 recognized as civil liberties day of remembrance but shall not be  
28 considered a legal holiday for any purpose.

29       The legislature declares that the nineteenth day of June be  
30 recognized as Juneteenth, a day of remembrance for the day the slaves  
31 learned of their freedom, but shall not be considered a legal holiday  
32 for any purpose.

33       The legislature declares that the ninth day of October be  
34 recognized as Leif Erickson day but shall not be considered a legal  
35 holiday for any purpose.

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