
HOUSE BILL 1239

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2021 Regular Session

By Representatives Chase, McCaslin, Dent, and Sutherland

Read first time 01/18/21. Referred to Committee on State Government & Tribal Relations.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing the new state of Liberty;
2 creating new sections and providing a contingent effective date.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A separate and independent state is
5 established from the eastern portions of Washington. The new state is
6 named and known as the state of Liberty. The western boundary of
7 Liberty follows the crest of the Cascade mountains and the western
8 borders of Okanogan, Chelan, Kittitas, Yakima, and Klickitat
9 counties. The eastern, northern, and southern borders of Liberty are
10 the existing state borders.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) Transition committees are established
12 to assist in the formation of the new state of Liberty. Each
13 transition committee shall be responsible for developing and adopting
14 a master plan for its respective policy area to establish the
15 government of the state of Liberty. Transition committees are
16 established for the following policy areas:

- 17 (a) Executive functions;
- 18 (b) Legislative functions;
- 19 (c) Judicial functions and courts;
- 20 (d) Local government functions and local elections;

- 1 (e) Statewide elections;
- 2 (f) Debt;
- 3 (g) Revenue and taxes;
- 4 (h) Infrastructure;
- 5 (i) Transportation;
- 6 (j) Education;
- 7 (k) Ecology and natural resources;
- 8 (l) Public safety and law enforcement;
- 9 (m) Labor and personnel;
- 10 (n) Agriculture; and
- 11 (o) Health care.

12 (2) (a) Each transition committee is comprised of four state
13 legislators and one expert, consultant, or other support staff,
14 including an attorney not employed by the attorney general.

15 (b) The four legislators on each transition committee are chosen
16 as follows:

17 (i) The speaker of the house of representatives, the minority
18 leader of the house of representatives, the senate majority leader,
19 and the senate minority leader shall each choose one legislator from
20 his or her caucus to serve on each transition committee.

21 (ii) Of the two legislators chosen by majority leadership, one
22 must represent a district that predominately lies west of the crest
23 of the Cascade mountains, and the other must represent a district
24 that predominately lies east of the crest of the Cascade mountains.

25 (iii) Of the two legislators chosen by minority leadership, one
26 must represent a district that predominately lies west of the crest
27 of the Cascade mountains, and the other must represent a district
28 that predominately lies east of the crest of the Cascade mountains.

29 (c) The expert, consultant, or other support staff on each
30 transition committee is chosen by a majority vote of the four
31 legislators on the transition committee.

32 (3) The membership of each transition committee must be finalized
33 within 30 days after this section takes effect.

34 (4) The governor shall call the first meeting of the transition
35 committees, to be held within 45 days after the committee membership
36 is finalized.

37 (5) Each transition committee must develop its master plan within
38 two years of the effective date of this section.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act takes effect immediately upon the
2 United States congress's consent to the formation of a new state of
3 Liberty in accordance with Article IV, section 3 of the United States
4 Constitution.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The governor shall provide written notice
6 of the effective date of this act to affected parties, the chief
7 clerk of the house of representatives, the secretary of state, the
8 office of the code reviser, and others as deemed appropriate by the
9 governor.

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