

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 1759

As Passed House:
February 17, 2025

Title: An act relating to designating the twelfth day of December as the day of the 12s.

Brief Description: Designating the twelfth day of December as the day of the 12s.

Sponsors: Representatives Mena, Cortes, Farivar, Street, Ybarra, Obras, Waters, Barnard, Stuebe, Stearns, Berg, Taylor, Zahn, Simmons, Scott, Paul, Salahuddin, Fosse, Ormsby, Nance and Reed.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

State Government & Tribal Relations: 2/7/25, 2/12/25 [DP].

Floor Activity:

Passed House: 2/17/25, 93-3.

<p>Brief Summary of Bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Designates December 12 as the Day of the 12s.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT & TRIBAL RELATIONS

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 7 members: Representatives Mena, Chair; Stearns, Vice Chair; Waters, Ranking Minority Member; Walsh, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Chase, Doglio and Farivar.

Staff: Connor Schiff (786-7093).

Background:

The Seattle Seahawks.

The Seattle Seahawks (Seahawks) are a professional football team based in Seattle. The

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Seahawks first played in 1976 and have played their home games at Lumen Field in Seattle's SoDo neighborhood since 2002. The Seahawks have won 11 division titles and three conference championships. The Seahawks defeated the Denver Broncos 43 to 8 at Super Bowl XLVIII.

Seahawks fans are collectively known as the "12s." Formerly, Seahawks fans were known as the "12th Man." The "12th Man" refers to fans being the twelfth player in a maximum 11-a-side game. Seahawks fans twice set the Guinness World Record for the loudest crowd noise at a sporting event within the span of a few months. In 1984 the Seahawks retired the number 12 in honor of the "12th Man."

State Holidays and Legislatively Recognized Days.

Washington recognizes 11 specific days as paid state legal holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Juneteenth, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, Native American Heritage Day, and Christmas Day.

Another 20 specific days are recognized by the Legislature, but they are not considered legal holidays. Some of those days commemorate specific events, such as Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day. Other days commemorate groups of people, such as Korean-American Day, or certain ideas, such as Human Trafficking Awareness Day and Public Lands Day.

Summary of Bill:

December 12 is designated as the Day of the 12s, a legislatively recognized day.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony:

(In support) The Seahawks and sports bring people together. Seahawks fans are so loud and present the fans are considered an extra person on the field. The Seahawks fans have helped build bonds that tie the Washington community together. There are no barriers to supporting the team. Places where everyone is welcome should be supported. We should celebrate the community that gathers together to celebrate the team. The Seahawks have fans all over the world. This proposal would help connect fans across the world. Many fan chapters give back to their communities by supporting charities. The Seahawks fan community helps bring people together and connects neighbors by allowing them to

discover a common thread of pride. Team pride is important. There should be an acknowledgment of the fans as the extra player on the field.

(Opposed) None.

Persons Testifying: Representative Sharlett Mena, prime sponsor; Terri Fletcher, Sea Hawks Organization; Lucy Aragon; and Roberto Reyes, Fan.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: None.