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**HOUSE BILL 1693**

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**State of Washington**                      **67th Legislature**                      **2022 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Chase, McCaslin, Klippert, Eslick, and Chambers

Prefiled 12/23/21.

1            AN ACT Relating to recognizing the first day of May as home  
2 school day; amending RCW 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 finds that home schooling  
5 serves as an excellent option for both parents and students allowing  
6 for uniquely tailored education, superior educational outcomes, and a  
7 pathway to opportunity for our future generations especially for  
8 Washingtonians from historically marginalized communities.

9            The legislature intends to establish home school day to celebrate  
10 and raise awareness around the educational, social, and family  
11 benefits that home schooling has provided for hundreds of thousands  
12 of Washingtonians.

13            Amid the COVID-19 pandemic and much educational uncertainty for  
14 Washington students, tens of thousands of Washington families chose  
15 to temporarily or permanently use home schooling in order to ensure  
16 their children's safety and provide them with high quality education.

17            Washingtonians from all backgrounds have been well-served through  
18 home schooling options. It is therefore the intent of the legislature  
19 to recognize and celebrate home schooling by designating the first  
20 day of May as home school day.

1       **Sec. 2.** RCW 1.16.050 and 2021 c 295 s 2 are each amended to read  
2 as follows:

3       (1) The following are state legal holidays:

4       (a) Sunday;

5       (b) The first day of January, commonly called New Year's Day;

6       (c) The third Monday of January, celebrated as the anniversary of  
7 the birth of Martin Luther King, Jr.;

8       (d) The third Monday of February, to be known as Presidents' Day  
9 and celebrated as the anniversary of the births of Abraham Lincoln  
10 and George Washington;

11       (e) The last Monday of May, commonly known as Memorial Day;

12       (f) The nineteenth day of June, recognized as Juneteenth, a day  
13 of remembrance for the day the African slaves learned of their  
14 freedom;

15       (g) The fourth day of July, the anniversary of the Declaration of  
16 Independence;

17       (h) The first Monday in September, to be known as Labor Day;

18       (i) The eleventh day of November, to be known as Veterans' Day;

19       (j) The fourth Thursday in November, to be known as Thanksgiving  
20 Day;

21       (k) The Friday immediately following the fourth Thursday in  
22 November, to be known as Native American Heritage Day; and

23       (1) The twenty-fifth day of December, commonly called Christmas  
24 Day.

25       (2) Employees of the state and its political subdivisions, except  
26 employees of school districts and except those nonclassified  
27 employees of institutions of higher education who hold appointments  
28 or are employed under contracts to perform services for periods of  
29 less than twelve consecutive months, are entitled to one paid holiday  
30 per calendar year in addition to those specified in this section.  
31 Each employee of the state or its political subdivisions may select  
32 the day on which the employee desires to take the additional holiday  
33 provided for in this section after consultation with the employer  
34 pursuant to guidelines to be promulgated by rule of the appropriate  
35 personnel authority, or in the case of local government by ordinance  
36 or resolution of the legislative authority.

37       (3) Employees of the state and its political subdivisions,  
38 including employees of school districts and those nonclassified  
39 employees of institutions of higher education who hold appointments  
40 or are employed under contracts to perform services for periods of

1 less than twelve consecutive months, are entitled to two unpaid  
2 holidays per calendar year for a reason of faith or conscience or an  
3 organized activity conducted under the auspices of a religious  
4 denomination, church, or religious organization. This includes  
5 employees of public institutions of higher education, including  
6 community colleges, technical colleges, and workforce training  
7 programs. The employee may select the days on which the employee  
8 desires to take the two unpaid holidays after consultation with the  
9 employer pursuant to guidelines to be promulgated by rule of the  
10 appropriate personnel authority, or in the case of local government  
11 by ordinance or resolution of the legislative authority. If an  
12 employee prefers to take the two unpaid holidays on specific days for  
13 a reason of faith or conscience, or an organized activity conducted  
14 under the auspices of a religious denomination, church, or religious  
15 organization, the employer must allow the employee to do so unless  
16 the employee's absence would impose an undue hardship on the employer  
17 or the employee is necessary to maintain public safety. Undue  
18 hardship shall have the meaning established in rule by the office of  
19 financial management under RCW 43.41.109.

20 (4) If any of the state legal holidays specified in this section  
21 are also federal legal holidays but observed on different dates, only  
22 the state legal holidays are recognized as a paid legal holiday for  
23 employees of the state and its political subdivisions. However, for  
24 port districts and the law enforcement and public transit employees  
25 of municipal corporations, either the federal or the state legal  
26 holiday is recognized as a paid legal holiday, but in no case may  
27 both holidays be recognized as a paid legal holiday for employees.

28 (5) Whenever any state legal holiday:

29 (a) Other than Sunday, falls upon a Sunday, the following Monday  
30 is the legal holiday; or

31 (b) Falls upon a Saturday, the preceding Friday is the legal  
32 holiday.

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

38 (7) The legislature declares that the following days are  
39 recognized as provided in this subsection, but may not be considered  
40 legal holidays for any purpose:

- 1 (a) The thirteenth day of January, recognized as Korean-American  
2 day;
- 3 (b) The twelfth day of October, recognized as Columbus day;
- 4 (c) The ninth day of April, recognized as former prisoner of war  
5 recognition day;
- 6 (d) The twenty-sixth day of January, recognized as Washington  
7 army and air national guard day;
- 8 (e) The seventh day of August, recognized as purple heart  
9 recipient recognition day;
- 10 (f) The second Sunday in October, recognized as Washington state  
11 children's day;
- 12 (g) The sixteenth day of April, recognized as Mother Joseph day;
- 13 (h) The fourth day of September, recognized as Marcus Whitman  
14 day;
- 15 (i) The seventh day of December, recognized as Pearl Harbor  
16 remembrance day;
- 17 (j) The twenty-seventh day of July, recognized as national Korean  
18 war veterans armistice day;
- 19 (k) The nineteenth day of February, recognized as civil liberties  
20 day of remembrance;
- 21 (l) The thirtieth day of March, recognized as welcome home  
22 Vietnam veterans day;
- 23 (m) The eleventh day of January, recognized as human trafficking  
24 awareness day;
- 25 (n) The thirty-first day of March, recognized as Cesar Chavez  
26 day;
- 27 (o) The tenth day of April, recognized as Dolores Huerta day;
- 28 (p) The fourth Saturday of September, recognized as public lands  
29 day; (~~and~~)
- 30 (q) The eighteenth day of December, recognized as blood donor  
31 day; and
- 32 (r) The first day of May, recognized as home school day.

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