

HERITAGE CAUCUS BILL REPORT – January 20, 2021

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HB 1016 (Morgan) – Making Juneteenth Day a legal holiday

- January 11 – First Reading
Referred to State Government & Tribal Relations
- January 13 – Scheduled for Public Hearing (8 a.m.)
House Committee on State Government & Tribal Relations
- January 20 – Scheduled for Executive

June 19 has been celebrated as "Juneteenth" or Emancipation Day to commemorate the abolishment of slavery and recognize the contributions of Black/African Americans to society. In 2007 the Legislature designated Juneteenth a legislatively recognized day as a day of remembrance for when slaves learned of their freedom. Forty-six states recognize Juneteenth as either a holiday or day of observance. The bill would designate June 19 as Juneteenth Day, a state holiday.

HB 1025 (Wicks) – Local Parks funding options – **SB 5006** (Van de Wege)

HOUSE

- January 11 – First Reading
Referred to House Finance
- January 21 – Scheduled for public hearing (8:00 a.m.)
House Finance

SENATE

- January 11 – First Reading
Referred to Senate Housing & Local Government
- January 19 – Scheduled for public hearing (8:00 a.m.)
Senate Committee on Housing & Local Government

The legislative authority of a city or county and/or the governing body of a metropolitan park district may submit an authorizing proposition to voters at a special or general election to impose a sales and use tax to help local parks and recreation agencies better address local parks funding needs.

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[HB 1058](#) (Bateman) – Modifying the sales and use tax for cultural access programs by allowing the tax to be imposed by a councilmanic or commission authority and defining timelines and priorities for action

- January 11 - First reading
Referred to House Finance
- January 21 – Scheduled for public hearing (8:00 a.m.)
House Finance

Modifies the sales and use tax for cultural access programs by allowing the tax to be imposed by a councilmanic or commission authority.

[HB 1067](#) (Morgan) – Designating the *Suciasaurus rex* as the official dinosaur of the state of Washington

- January 11 - First reading
Referred to State Government & Tribal Relations

Suciasaurus rex, the first and only dinosaur discovered in Washington state, should be designated as the state dinosaur.

[HB 1069](#) (Pollet) - Concerning local government fiscal flexibility

- January 11 – First Reading
Referred to House committee on Local Government
- January 13 – Public Hearing in Committee on Local Government
- January 15 – Executive Session taken in Committee on Local Government

Provides local governments increased flexibility in the use of existing revenues in order to enable local governments to continue to provide essential services and to facilitate economic recovery through December 31, 2023. An amendment was adopted that removed provisions allowing lodging tax revenue to be used for housing and rental assistance through December 31, 2023.

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HB 1101 (Walsh) - Creating a grant program for converting unused public buildings to housing for homeless persons

- January 11 – First Reading
Referred to House Capital Budget

The public building conversion grant program is created in the Community, Trade & Economic Development Department. The purpose of this program is to encourage counties to convert unused, publicly owned buildings into housing for homeless persons.

HB 1279 (Rule) - Modifying the Washington main street program tax incentive to respond to the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic

- January 19 – First Reading
Referred to House Finance

Changes the Main Street tax incentive program, increasing the amount of the overall cap on the program from \$2.5M to \$4M, and increasing the value of the credit from 75% to 90% for business owners participating in the program.

SB 5059 (McCune) - Protecting state and federal monuments, memorials, and statues from damage intentionally inflicted during the course of unpeaceful demonstrations or riots

- January 11 – First Reading
Referred to Senate Committee on Law & Justice

Makes defacing a ((state)) public monument a Class C felony (previously a misdemeanor).

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SB 5161 (Wellman) - Teaching Washington's tribal history, culture, and government

- January 12 – First Reading
Referred to Early Learning & K-12 Education
- January 18 – Public Hearing in Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education

Beginning July 24, 2015, when a school district board of directors reviews or adopts its social studies curriculum, it shall incorporate curricula about the history, culture, and government of the nearest federally recognized Indian tribe or tribes, so that students learn about the unique heritage and experience of their closest neighbors.

SB 5238 (Hasegawa) - Creating a Washington state creative economy work group

- January 15 – First Reading
Referred to Business, Financial Services & Trade

Within two years, develop a strategic plan to improve the Washington state creative economy that can be rolled out in incremental phases to reach identified economic, social justice, and business development goals.