

# ICSEW BILL ALERT

HB 1617

**Aligning state and school holidays.**



<https://app.leg.wa.gov/billssummary?BillNumber=1617&Year=2021&Initiative=False>

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## **Why does this bill matter to you?**

*How does it apply to state employed women.*

- Should this bill pass, all state holidays are also school holidays on which school may not be taught. The current list of specific school holidays is removed.
- On June 19, 1865, more than two years after the effective date of the Emancipation Proclamation, people in Galveston, Texas finally learned that the Civil War had ended and enslaved people had been freed. June 19 has subsequently been celebrated as Juneteenth or Emancipation Day to commemorate the abolishment of slavery and recognize the contributions of Black/African Americans to society. In 2021 Juneteenth became a state holiday in Washington. That act did not, however, explicitly provide that Juneteenth is also a school holiday.

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