

HCS HB 128 & 340 -- HOLIDAYS

SPONSOR: Wood (Cunningham)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Tourism by a vote of 12 to 0.

This substitute requires state agencies, public schools, public colleges, and political subdivisions to use the traditional names of holidays for any holiday which they observe or recognize. This includes the traditional holiday names of "New Year's Day," "Martin Luther King, Jr. Day," "Lincoln's Birthday," "Washington's Birthday," "Easter," "Truman Day," "Memorial Day," "Fourth of July" or "Independence Day," "Labor Day," "Columbus Day," "Veterans Day," "Thanksgiving Day," "Hanukkah," "Christmas," and "Kwanzaa."

The substitute also designates December 25 of each year to be known as Christmas.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2010, FY 2011, and FY 2012.

PROPOSERS: Supporters of House Bill 128 say that it is important to provide our citizens with the history that is being lost by using non-traditional names.

Supporters of House Bill 340 say that organizations receiving state funds should be required to use traditional names of holidays. It is important to provide our citizens with the history that is being lost by using non-traditional names.

Testifying for HB 128 and HB 340 was Representative Cunningham.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.