

Washington Reprieve Power

"The governor may also, on good cause shown, grant respites or reprieves from time to time as he or she may think proper." Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 10.01.120 (West). A statute directs the Clemency and Pardons Board to review applications for commutations and pardons, but that statute says nothing about reprieves. WA St. 9.94A.885. This suggests that the governor can grant reprieves unilaterally, so long as there is "good cause."

The governor "shall report to the legislature at its next meeting each case of reprieve, commutation or pardon granted, and the reasons for granting the same..." West's RCWA Const. Art. 3, § 11.