

Ryan D. Wilcox proposes the following substitute bill:

Election Day Amendments

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Ryan D. Wilcox

Senate Sponsor:

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill addresses state holidays.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ eliminates Columbus Day as a state holiday; and
- ▶ establishes the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November as a state holiday called Election Day.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

This bill provides a special effective date.

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

63G-1-301, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 331

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **63G-1-301** is amended to read:

63G-1-301 . Legal holidays -- Personal preference day -- Governor authorized to declare additional days.

(1)(a) The following named days are legal holidays in this state:

- (i) every Sunday, except as provided in Subsection (1)(e);
- (ii) January 1, called New Year's Day;
- (iii) the third Monday of January, called Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day;
- (iv) the third Monday of February, called Washington and Lincoln Day;
- (v) the last Monday of May, called Memorial Day;
- (vi) on the day described in Subsection (1)(f), Juneteenth National Freedom Day;

- 30 (vii) July 4, called Independence Day;
- 31 (viii) July 24, called Pioneer Day;
- 32 (ix) the first Monday of September, called Labor Day;
- 33 [~~(x) the second Monday of October, called Columbus Day;~~]
- 34 (x) the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, called Election Day;
- 35 (xi) November 11, called Veterans Day;
- 36 (xii) the fourth Thursday of November, called Thanksgiving Day;
- 37 (xiii) December 25, called Christmas; and
- 38 (xiv) all days which may be set apart by the President of the United States, or the
- 39 governor of this state by proclamation as days of fast or thanksgiving.
- 40 (b) If any of the holidays under Subsections (1)(a)(ii) through (v) or Subsections
- 41 (1)(a)(vii) through (xiv), falls on Sunday, then the following Monday shall be the
- 42 holiday.
- 43 (c) If any of the holidays under Subsections (1)(a)(ii) through (v) or Subsections
- 44 (1)(a)(vii) through (xiv) falls on Saturday, then the preceding Friday shall be the
- 45 holiday.
- 46 (d) Each employee may select one additional day, called Personal Preference Day, to be
- 47 scheduled pursuant to rules adopted by the Division of Human Resource
- 48 Management.
- 49 (e) For purposes of Utah Constitution Article VI, Section 16, Subsection (1), regarding
- 50 the exclusion of state holidays from the 45-day legislative general session, Sunday is
- 51 not considered a state holiday.
- 52 (f)(i) The Juneteenth National Freedom Day holiday is on June 19, if that day is on a
- 53 Monday.
- 54 (ii) If June 19 is on a Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday, the Juneteenth
- 55 National Freedom Day holiday is on the immediately preceding Monday.
- 56 (iii) If June 19 is on a Saturday or Sunday, the Juneteenth National Freedom Day
- 57 holiday is on the immediately following Monday.
- 58 (2)(a) Whenever in the governor's opinion extraordinary conditions exist justifying the
- 59 action, the governor may:
- 60 (i) declare, by proclamation, legal holidays in addition to those holidays under
- 61 Subsection (1); and
- 62 (ii) limit the holidays to certain classes of business and activities to be designated by
- 63 the governor.

64 (b) A holiday may not extend for a longer period than 60 consecutive days.

65 (c) Any holiday may be renewed for one or more periods not exceeding 30 days each as
66 the governor may consider necessary, and any holiday may, by like proclamation, be
67 terminated before the expiration of the period for which it was declared.

68 Section 2. **Effective Date.**

69 This bill takes effect on January 1, 2026.