SB0193S03 compared with SB0193

1   **State Legal Holiday Amendments**

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Keven J. Stratton

House Sponsor:

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3   **LONG TITLE**

4   **General Description:**

5   This bill {amends provisions relating to } addresses state legal holidaysand holy days.

6   **Highlighted Provisions:**

7   This bill:

8   ‣ makes Good Friday a legal holiday in Utah; {and}

9   ‣ **for Good Friday, provides a half-day of paid time off to a state employee;**

10   ‣ **requires a school district, a charter school, and an institution of higher education to prioritize, to the extent possible, scheduling school breaks to coincide with state holy days;**

13   ‣ **requires a government entity to place a high priority on approving an employee's request to take personal leave on a state holy day; and**

9   ‣ makes technical changes.

16   **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

17   None

18   **Other Special Clauses:**

19   None

SB0193

20   **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

21   AMENDS:

22   **63G-1-301** , as repealed and reenacted by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 448

23   **63G-1-1101 , as enacted by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 351**

24   ENACTS:

25   **53G-4-416 , Utah Code Annotated 1953**

26   **53G-5-415 , Utah Code Annotated 1953**

27   **53H-3-1304 , Utah Code Annotated 1953**

28

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

30   Section 1. Section **1** is enacted to read:

31   **53G-4-416. School district prioritization of school breaks to coincide with state holy days.**
          Starting with the 2027-28 school year, when setting the schedule for a school year, a
          school district shall, to the extent possible, prioritize scheduling school breaks to coincide with
          Good Friday and other state holy days described in Section 63G-1-1101.

36   Section 2. Section **2** is enacted to read:

37   **53G-5-415. Charter school prioritization of school breaks to coincide with state holy days.**
          Starting with the 2027-28 school year, when setting the schedule for a school year, a
          charter school shall, to the extent possible, prioritize scheduling school breaks to coincide with
          Good Friday and other state holy days described in Section 63G-1-1101.

42   Section 3. Section **3** is enacted to read:

43   **53H-3-1304. Institution of higher education prioritization of school breaks to coincide with
          state holy days.**
          Starting with the 2027-28 school year, when setting the schedule for a school year, a,
          institution of higher education shall, to the extent possible, prioritize scheduling school breaks
          to coincide with Good Friday and other state holy days described in Section 63G-1-1101.

48   Section 4. Section **63G-1-301** is amended to read:

49   **63G-1-301. Legal holidays -- Personal preference day -- Governor authorized to declare
          additional legal holidays.**

22   (1) The following days are legal holidays in Utah:

23   (a) except as provided in Subsection (2)(a) or (b):

24 (i) January 1, New Year's Day;

25 (ii) July 4, Independence Day;

26 (iii) July 24, Pioneer Day;

27 (iv) November 11, Veterans Day;

28 (v) December 25, Christmas; and

29 (vi) a day designated by proclamation issued by the president of the United States or the governor as a day of fasting or thanksgiving;

31 (b)

 [(i) the first Sunday after the first full moon that occurs on or after the spring equinox, Easter Sunday;]

33 [(ii)] (i) the third Monday of January, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day;

34 [(iii)] (ii) the third Monday of February, Washington and Lincoln Day;

35 (iii) subject to Subsection (6), the Friday preceding Easter Sunday, Good Friday;

36 (iv) the first Sunday after the first full moon that occurs on or after the spring equinox, Easter Sunday;

38 [(iv)] (v) the last Monday of May, Memorial Day;

39 [(v)] (vi) the first Monday of September, Labor Day;

40 [(vi)] (vii) the second Monday of October, Columbus Day;

41 [(vii)] (viii) the fourth Thursday of November, Thanksgiving Day; and

42 [(viii)] (ix) except as provided in Subsection (2)(c) or (d), June 19, Juneteenth National Freedom Day; and

44 (c) except as provided in Subsection (3), every Sunday.

45 (2)

 (a) If a day described in Subsection (1)(a) falls on a Saturday, the preceding Friday is the legal holiday.

47 (b) If a day described in Subsection (1)(a) falls on a Sunday, the following Monday is the legal holiday.

49 (c) If June 19 falls on a Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday, the preceding Monday is the legal holiday.

51 (d) If June 19 falls on Saturday or Sunday, the following Monday is the legal holiday.

52 (3) For purposes of Utah Constitution, Article VI, Section 16, Subsection (1), regarding the exclusion of state holidays from the 45-day legislative general session, Sunday is not considered a state holiday.

55 (4) Each employee may select one additional day, called Personal Preference Day, to be scheduled in accordance with rules made, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, by the Division of Human Resource Management, which the employee may use

to observe a state holy day, as described in Section 63G-1-1101, or any other day the employee chooses to recognize.

60   (5)

    (a) If, in the governor's opinion, extraordinary conditions exist justifying the action, the governor may:

62   (i) declare, by proclamation, legal holidays in addition to those legal holidays described in Subsections (1) and (2); or

64   (ii) limit the legal holidays described in Subsection (5)(a)(i) to certain classes of business and activities to be designated by the governor.

66   (b) Except as provided in Subsection (5)(c), a legal holiday described in Subsection (5)(a) may not extend for a longer period than 60 consecutive days.

68   (c) The governor may, by proclamation:

69   (i) renew a legal holiday described in Subsection (5)(a) for one or more periods not exceeding 30 days each as the governor determines necessary; or

71   (ii) terminate a legal holiday described under Subsection (5)(a) or (b) earlier than the time period described in a preceding proclamation.

102   **(6) A state employee who receives paid time off for a legal holiday will, for Good Friday, receive four hours of paid time off rather than the standard eight hours.**

104   **Section 5. Section 63G-1-1101 is amended to read:**

105   **63G-1-1101. State holy days.**

106   (1) As used in this section, "state holy day" means an annual day or other time period of special religious significance that the state officially recognizes and observes as a holy day under this section.

109   (2) A state holy day is not a legal holiday or state holiday, unless the state holy day is also designated as a legal holiday under Section 63G-1-301.

111   (3) The following are state holy days:

112   (a) Holi, on the last full moon day of the Hindu lunisolar month of Phalguna;

113   (b) Lunar New Year, from the lunar calendar's first new moon through the lunar calendar's first full moon;

115   (c) Good Friday, on the Friday preceding Easter Sunday;

116   (d) Easter Sunday, on the first Sunday after the first full moon that occurs on or after the spring equinox;

118	(e) Eid al-Fitr, on the first day of the Islamic lunar month of Shawwal;
119	(f) Passover, for eight days, starting on the fifteenth day of the Hebrew lunisolar month of Nisan;
121	(g) Vesak Day, on the first full moon of the Hindu lunisolar month of Vaisakha;
122	(h) Eid al-Adha, on the tenth day of the Islamic lunar month of Dhu al-Hijjah;
123	(i) Rosh Hashanah, on the first two days of the Hebrew lunisolar month of Tishrei;
124	(j) Yom Kippur, on the tenth day of the Hebrew lunisolar month of Tishrei;
125	(k) Diwali, on the fifteenth day of the Hindu lunisolar month of Kartik; and
126	(l) Christmas, on December 25.
127	(4) A state government entity or local government entity shall place a high priority on approving an employee's request to take personal leave on a state holy day.

129   Section 6. **Effective date.**

Effective Date.

This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.

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